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Incident reveals racial tension

Midd marred by racially-motivated student altercation

By Kathryn Flagg
News Editor

Dean of the College Tim Spears confirmed on Monday that two students have been disciplined for violating College policy following an encounter involving racial epithets allegedly followed by physical force. The Jan. 27 incident has sparked a Community Judicial Board inquiry and several meetings.

The altercation occurred on a Friday night after a white student verbally harassed a black student. Spears confirmed that a racial epithet was used during the incident, but the details of the event remain largely unclear. Students present at meetings held in response to the incident said the students exchanged blows, but administrators have only confirmed the use of racial slurs in defining the scope of the event.

"This particular incident is complicated," said Associate Dean of Student Affairs Karen Guttentag, "because it involves a number of allegations that have been disputed by participants and witnesses." Adding to this confusion is the closed judicial system, a process designed, according to Guttentag, to protect the "fairness of the process and the confidentiality of participants." In light of the judicial inquiry, the College has not released an official statement addressing the incident.

Dean of the College Tim Spears did confirm that "several Middlebury students" were involved in the incident, and noted that two students were disciplined following a judicial board hearing. "How they were disciplined is not a matter of public record," he said.

Spears continued, "I really can't comment

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Photo Illustration by Vlad Lodoaba

Newspaper service scratched

By Zoey Burrows
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association (SGA), under President Eli Berman '07.5, temporarily discontinued the Collegiate Readership Program this week. The program, which provides free newspapers in dining halls for students to read, was cancelled after dining hall workers complained that students leave newspapers behind for employees to clear away.

Since the program's inception over a year ago, SGA members agree that it has been one of their most successful programs. As Berman notes sarcastically, "It bursts the bubble that is Middlebury College." As part of the College Readership Program which is run through *USA Today*, the program provides students with daily *New York Times*, *Boston Globe* and *USA Today* papers. The SGA would like to receive the *Wall Street Journal* if it were an option, and used to get the *Financial Times* and *Burlington Free Press*, which were cancelled due to low student interest.

SGA Director of Institutional Affairs Tafadzwa Dube '08 explained that the SGA "agreed on a system whereby the number of papers to be delivered today is determined, primarily, by yesterdays demand. Roughly, we get 70 newspapers a day split between the three dining halls. The split is one-half *New York Times*, one-fourth *Boston Globe* and one-fourth *USA Today*.

After weighing its options, the SGA decided to place the newspapers in campus dining halls, rather than in social centers or student residence halls. However this has caused some tension between students and dining hall staff who end up cleaning up after students who

See Newspaper, page 3

Student-faculty ratio expounded

By Lisie Mehlman
News Editor

Admissions data affecting the College's national ranking was hotly contested among the faculty, who also discussed grade inflation and the Starr Restoration Project at a meeting on Monday in John M. McCardell, Jr. BiCentennial Hall.

The first order of business presented in the packed auditorium was the issue of the faculty's role in the admissions process. Associate Professor of Psychology Barbara Hofer spoke about the Admissions Office's interest in the input of professors while formulating their decisions about which student candidates to accept. Comments from professors such Charles A. Dana Professor of Political Science Murray Dry and Stewart Professor of English and Environmental Studies John Elder proved particularly helpful to admissions officers deliberating about students who were really on the brink. Hofer, asked if this was a practice that faculty members felt should be continued.

Following Hofer's address, the meeting turned to the topic of the newly released student-faculty ratio, which has improved from 11:1 to 9:1. Faculty members like Vice President for Academic Affairs and Professor of English Alison Byerly voiced skepticism of the rather sudden, extremely positive change in the reported ratio. President Ronald D. Liebowitz and Dean of Planning and Secretary of the College John Emerson explained that, in the past, the College's meth-

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Eat well at 'Eat good'

Albert Bitici

Celebrating the opening of Middlebury's newest eatery, Wonnacott Commons Dean Matt Longman and a friend sample the tasty treats at Eat Good Food. Server Dina Magaril '08.5 lends a cheerful hand.

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MIDDBRIEFS

BY SCOTT GREENE AND KATHRYN FLAGG

Campus heats up for 83rd Winter Carnival

This weekend's expected snowfall comes at a perfect time, coinciding with Middlebury's 83rd annual Winter Carnival. The weekend's festivities, themed "Iced Out," form both the largest and oldest student-run carnival in the country.

The long weekend begins on Thursday, Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m. in Kenyon Arena for the winter ice show, called "Warning: Keep Frozen." The show features the Middlebury Skating Club, a local group with members of all ages, as well as numerous Middlebury College faculty, staff and students.

The Carnival heats up on Friday afternoon, as the Japanese Club hosts the snow festival at Coffrin Hall. Calligraphy, origami and several student performances comprise the event, which begins at 1 p.m. The day's activities will conclude from 4:30-7:00 p.m. at the College's Center for the Arts, with a cultural gala entitled "Frozen Fantasy." Those in attendance will have the opportunity to learn about dance from around the world, as well as enjoy performances by the Middlebury College Flying Fists Juggling Brigade and the Generation Today/Vermont Breakers.

However, the first two days of festivities are only a prelude to the main event. On both Friday and Saturday, some of the nation's finest nordic and alpine skiers will showcase their talent at the Middlebury Snow Bowl and the Rikert Ski Touring Center in Ripton. The competition serves as regional qualifying for the NCAA Championships.

"Despite the cold in the distance," Adam Clayton '08.5 said, "The Snow Bowl provides events that generate such an electricity on campus that the temperature is soon forgotten."

Winter Carnival concludes on Sunday with a performance by the Bread and Puppet Theater for Vermont entitled "National Circus of the Correct Moment." Bread and Puppet is one of the oldest nonprofit, self-supporting theatrical companies in the country, and the Winter Carnival performance will feature its signature masked characters and giant papier-mâché puppets.

Faculty rakes in awards, funding and fellowships

In a recent slew of faculty awards and grants, several members of the Middlebury College faculty have been honored with funding and fellowships for scholastic achievements and scholarly endeavors.

Geology professor Thomas Manley has, for the second year, received funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for his project, "Hydrodynamic Investigation of the Inland Sea of Lake Champlain." The undertaking is a cooperative program involving fellow geology professor Pat Manley and colleagues from LODYC in Paris, SeaScan in Falmouth, Mass. and the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University.

Also in the sciences, Biology Professor Grace Spatafora has received funding from the National Institutes of Health in order to purchase additional equipment for use in her NIH-funded research with College students.

The American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies is supporting the research of History and International Studies Professor Ian Barrow, who is investigating the Assassination Museums in South Asia. The funding will go towards a trip to Sri Lanka next year and Barrow's research at a Sri Lankan museum dedicated to the assassinated former Prime Minister.

Religion Professor James Davis has been honored by the National Endowment for the Humanities for his project, "On Religious Liberty: Roger Williams and the Birth of an American Ideal." Davis is currently working on this project during his academic leave this year. The project assembles passages from Williams's defense of freedom of conscience for scholarly and classroom use and offers a critical interpretation of Williams's thought and its importance for discussions of religious freedom today. The NEH has granted Davis a fellowship for his work.

History of Art and Architecture professor Pieter Broucke has been awarded a similar NEH fellowship in support of his book project, "Reconstructing the Pantheon of Agrippa: Architecture, Sculpture, and Meaning." Broucke currently plans to finish this book during his leave next year.

LIS releases survey results

By Polly Johnson
News Editor

In a large-scale effort to assess the overall satisfaction with Library and Information Services (LIS), Middlebury College, along with four other schools including Bryn Mawr, the University of Richmond, Wellesley College and Bates College, created a detailed survey that was distributed during the fall of 2005. Associate Dean of LIS Carol Peddie was the primary architect of the survey at Middlebury, and the four other schools were part of the survey because, like Middlebury, they have combined library and technology services. When the new library was built, Library Services combined with Technology Services to establish LIS.

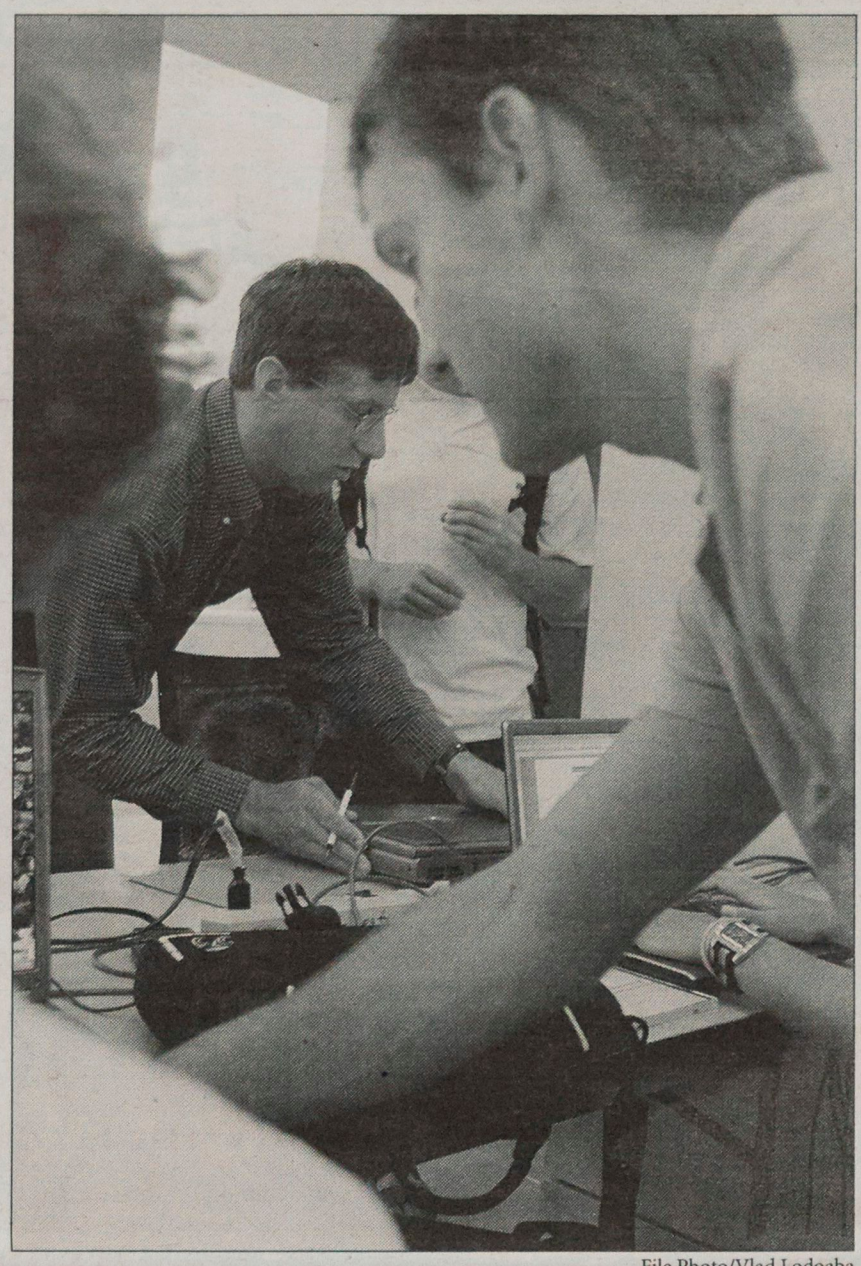
The survey went out to 700 randomly-selected students, 335 faculty members, and 825 staff members. While there was a 72.8 percent response rate among the faculty, only 48.5 percent of the staff and 35.4 percent of students responded.

"We created a survey instrument because it helped us assess what services are being used and how satisfied our users are with our services," Peddie said. Along with simply assessing the importance of LIS at Middlebury, the survey was designed "to see if Middlebury students are satisfied with LIS services, and to see how Middlebury services compare to those at other schools," she explained. She also added that although only five schools were a part of this first survey, "[it] is being rolled out to an additional 10-15 schools that have merged services. We hope to see trends, so if we are looking to enhance or let go of a service, we can look beyond just Middlebury."

Peddie hopes that the survey will be conducted every two years, so that the campus doesn't feel "over surveyed."

The officially-stated purpose of the survey was "to assess the use, importance, and satisfaction of LIS services and resources and to provide an initial benchmark measure." The results showed that the most frequently used services by faculty are library services — the library Web site, catalog, databases and circulation — classroom technology, access to online resources from off campus, Banner and the Helpdesk. The least-used services among faculty consisted of video conferencing, checking out laptops and the computing Web site. The survey ultimately concluded that 96 percent of those faculty members who responded were satisfied with the overall library service.

Among students, the results were noticeably different, with the most-used services being computer labs, telephone service, the library Web site, Banner, electronic reserves and Segue. Surprisingly, the least used services include borrowing laptops, the computing web site, Interlibrary loan and the Helpdesk. All in all, 95 percent of those students who responded were largely satisfied with LIS. Ninety four percent of the staff members surveyed reported that they were satisfied with virus protection.



File Photo/Vlad Lodoaba

Members of the LIS team work fastidiously to support the school's endeavors.

In combining and analyzing the results of the students, faculty and staff, the survey showed surprising results. First, Banner ranked as the most important resource with both staff and students, while the faculty ranked Banner at number nine, with library resources and services topping the faculty list. In another noticeable variation, faculty and staff ranked the Helpdesk as the second top resource, while students ranked it at number ten on their list.

A second dissimilarity was the difference in importance which students and faculty attribute to Segue. While 79 percent of students are satisfied with Segue, only 37 percent of faculty answered to being satisfied with it. However, Peddie noted, there were correlations between the least-used services and the lowest satisfaction rates, and since many faculty members have never used Segue, it contributed to a lower percentage of satisfaction rate.

When all the results were calculated, there were a number of unexpected revelations. While over 90 percent of students have their own computers, 82 percent of students rated computer labs as very important. This pleased Peddie, who noted that percentage proved "they are getting used and are important to people." Additionally, it was a surprise that 54 percent of the faculty have never used Segue and do not think it has any significance. A high number — 74 percent — of students recorded that wireless access is important and are not satisfied with the current service. The final surprise was that over 50 percent of faculty, staff and students have never used the computing Web site, nor do they think of it as a useful or important resource.

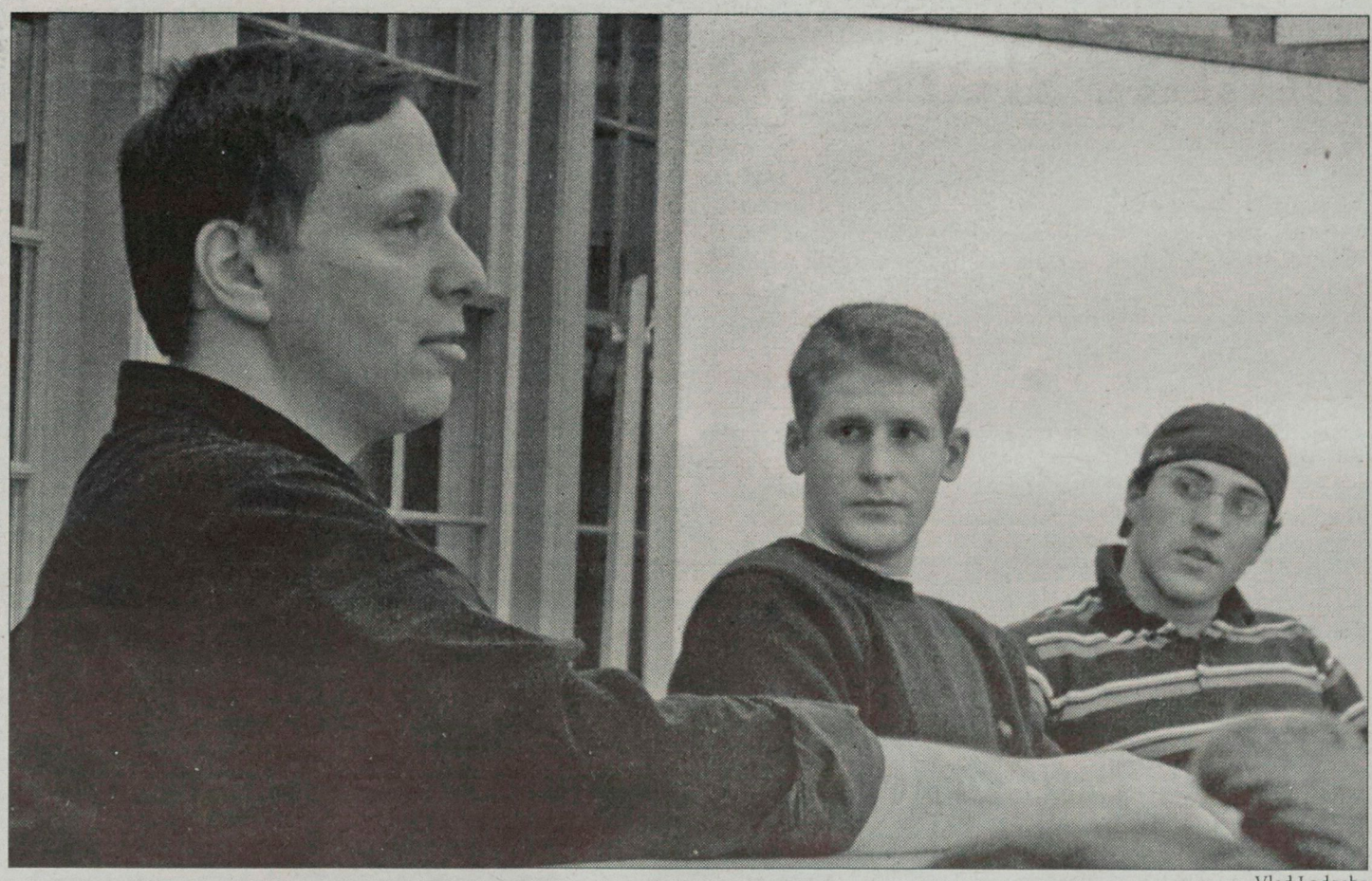
Peddie feels the survey was an overall success and is eager for it to expand to potentially 10-15 more schools, since with the inclusion of more schools, "[LIS] can look at the best practices of other schools to see and share success stories." The survey, in general, Peddie said, "solidified the fact that people are pleased with the services we offer."

what the numbers say ...

90 percent of polled students reported owning and having their own computers on campus.

74 percent of students are unsatisfied with current wireless access on campus.

95 percent of students are satisfied, overall, with the library services.



Vlad Lodoaba

Ronald Liebowitz converses candidly with SGA members Alex Stanton '07 and Mark Loper '06 at Sunday evening's weekly SGA meeting.

SGA SafeRides take to the road

By Annie Onishi
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association (SGA) convened Sunday in the Robert A. Jones '59 Conference Room to vote on the proposed SafeRides program, a program providing student-run transportation from off-campus parties. The SGA also received a report from Middlebury College President Ronald D. Liebowitz and discussed the Student Readership Program.

The SGA unanimously approved the Off-Campus Shuttle Bill, which was sponsored by Senator Andrew Carnabuci '06. The bill is a proposed solution to the problem caused by the restrictive interpretation of Vermont State liquor laws, which have caused an increase in off-campus parties and the potential for drunk driving.

Carnabuci provided the meeting's attendees with an overview of the SafeRides proposal. The program would entail the employment of four students — three drivers and one dispatcher — who would be stationed at the SGA office in McCullough Student Center. Employees would work from 12 a.m. to 3 a.m. and would be in contact via cell phone. Students at off-campus parties could call the dispatcher, provide their whereabouts and receive a ride home from locations within a pre-ordained three mile radius.

Carnabuci and Middlebury College Business Manager Tom Corbin answered questions regarding logistics and liability. Carnabuci explained the budget, which would be $4,750 per semester to cover costs including gas, uniforms and the $15 per hour salary paid to employees. The money to fund this program will come from the SGA discretionary fund as well as from the donations of College Trustees, because the College has refused to provide any funding. Corbin explained that the College cannot fund SafeRides because it would be considered in violation of Vermont State law for enabling illegal activities. If funding is obtained, SafeRides could begin as soon as March.

Students can be smart. Students are the ones who hold the cards here.
—President Liebowitz

Of the program, Carnabuci said, "I really do feel strongly that we have an obligation to do something. The last thing that anyone wants to see is that someone gets hurt. I think this is a good step in that direction." He continued, "This year the social scene has moved so far off campus, and it's a problem that is not going to go away. I don't want to go to any funerals before I graduate."

The meeting then turned over to the direction of Leibowitz, who updated the Senate on the recent meeting with the Board of Trustees. Liebowitz led a discussion about the Starr Library renovation project, the Strategic Planning Process, senior and off-campus housing and most notably, the social situation at the College.

After a lengthy report from Leibowitz about the aforementioned topics, SGA President Eli Berman '07.5 asked Liebowitz, "What can we do?" about the central role that alcohol plays in the College social scene. Liebowitz responded, "We can't look to the adults to solve these issues. There's very little we can do, but we can't turn our backs. Students can be smart. Students are the ones who hold the cards here. We'd like to help you, but it's not an issue I think the administration can solve."

The meeting concluded with a discussion about the temporary suspension of the Student Readership Program because students have neglected to pick the newspapers up and the Dining Hall staff does not have the time to do it.

Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson likened the cancellation of the program to the fact that the College has to spend thousands of dollars to replace lost dishes and cutlery, or to students looking out for each other at parties. She said, "How do you get the people to look at the greater good of the institution? People are not pitching in and doing something to help someone else. As a community, we're not good at that."

Newspaper service put on hold

Continued from page 1

leave tables, chairs and floor space strewn with newspapers.

In an interview with *The Campus*, Berman said that this week's suspension of the service is intended not to punish students but rather "to raise their awareness about the problem and make [the newspaper service] a privilege." Berman gives fellow students the benefit of the doubt, saying that "in their positive effort to share the papers with others," students are leaving them on the tables instead of putting them back on the racks.

I love them all and I know it's hard for students to study, but I don't even pick up after my grandson! I'm not Mom, you know?
—Atwater employee Adrienne Bougor

Atwater employee Adrienne Bougor said, "I don't mind them bringing the papers into the dining halls, I just wish the students would be a little more considerate." Bougor, who has been working in Middlebury dining services for 23 years, first in Proctor and now at Atwater, notes that "before, newspapers were put into student mailboxes."

According to Dining Services Team Leader Anna Bishop, students often "stick them underneath the table so they can eat." There seems to be consensus among dining hall staff that the "newspaper problem" tends to be worst after lunch when students sit down to read but then rush off to their next class and do not pick up after themselves.

Bougor explains that she herself loves to read *The Middlebury Campus*, but that the dining room becomes especially newspaper-ridden on Thursdays, when the College's weekly *Campus* edition hits the stands. She says, "I love them all and I know it's hard for students to study, but I don't even pick up after my grandson!" Bougor says that sometimes she thinks to herself, "I'm not Mom, you know?"

Due to time restraints on the job, dining hall staff are often forced to throw away perfectly good papers because they don't have time to put them back together again, depriving latecomers the option of reading the paper.

Dube thinks of this week's temporary cancellation as "a necessitated tune-up" to the program. He compares this idea to other 'tune-ups' on campus, such as ITS shutting down Banner Web access to students in order "to perform an upgrade to the current system. It is all in the best interests of the student body so that at the end of the day, they are receiving the best possible service."

OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY JOHN MONTESANTI

AUSTRALIA—Australia tends to be a little more lax on most everything: no shoes required at the grocery store, no leashes on their dogs and no tops on their bikinis. They also like their booze, most of the time.

The interesting part of Coogee is that everyone here seems to be American. For our convenience I suppose the Uni (University) cooks all the U.S. students in one pot. As a result I have met more people from Cornell than from Coogee. Every night for dinner a few of us try to get together on the beach to grill. The city provides free grills with a great view — we just bring a few lamb/beef burgers, maybe some tomato sauce (Australian for ketchup), and a box of cheap wine. All in all it provides a pretty festive environment as well as some tasty, inexpensive food. Since Australians don't have an open container policy we figured it would be chill to pound some brews during our tradition last night … not so much.

As we were finishing our last meal about eight Australian-style Mounties strolled up the path fanning toward us. It seems that drinking on the beach may have posed some problems after all. Apparently not all the college students have as good a relationship with their local authorities as Midd students have with officers Chris and Sandy, because some of them flat-out booked it. However, enough students stood strong, driven mostly by beer-induced bravery, and asked, typically, "Hello officer, is there a problem?"

"No worries mate, just finish your beer. No alcohol in the park after dark."

That wasn't our only interesting run-in with authority figures and alcohol. My first week in Australia was spent in the Great Barrier Reef taking a pre-semester class on ocean biology and currents. Our class flew on eight-passenger planes to a 600-meter-long island made of dead coral and cemented bird poop. The island had no air con, one tele and two bars. Each evening after class our most enthusiastic professor would organize the student social life. So here is our 50-year-old professor sweeping by us yelling, "Sunset drinks at the Lighthouse, 6:30."

This is the same professor that bought a student a beer on his 21st birthday and had him funnel it using half a pop bottle and a snorkel. Since the Australian education system is more "learn on your own," none of the professors cared that he was hungover during their lectures the following morning. Or maybe the reason they didn't care was because they caused the hangover. Either way, I have concluded that one night at the bar with a professor is equivalent to exactly 9.8 office hour visits.

It's a shame that it can't be all fun and games. By the end of the week the MacGyver funneling had to be postponed until after hand-writing 2,000-word essays. But until real classes start on Monday, I'll be grilling on the beach, just enjoying the fact that the Vermont liquor inspector hasn't made it this far south yet.

COLLEGE SHORTS

BY DANIEL L. J. PHILLIPS

Harvard faculty force resignation

Harvard University President Lawrence H. Summers announced on Tuesday that he will resign from his role on June 30 due to mounting pressure from the undergraduate College faculty who have criticized his leadership style and his handling of a government fraud scandal that implicated economics professor Andrei Shleifer, reported *The Harvard Crimson*.

Summers was scheduled to face a vote of no-confidence — which Summers failed last March — at next Tuesday's meeting of Harvard's Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and a separate motion was passed for the University's governing boards to intervene. In his letter of resignation to the Harvard community, Summers cited divisions between him and the faculty that made it infeasible for his presidency to continue.

Summers received a $563,000 base salary in the 2004-5 academic year and received a three percent raise last July. Derek C. Bok — who was University president from 1971 to 1991 — will serve as interim president beginning July 1 until a permanent successor is chosen. Summers plans to return to teaching after a year-long sabbatical.

Harvard professors speculate that the search for a new dean of the faculty to replace William C. Kirby will be postponed until another president is selected. Following ongoing tension between the two administrators, Summers fired Kirby from his post earlier this month, leaving the school with a budget deficit and upsetting the curricular review process.

Summers came to office with plans to expand the campus and further integrate the disparate schools of the University, but angered professors with faults like his statement from last year that women may lack an intrinsic aptitude for math and science.

Summers's five-year tenure is the shortest held by a Harvard president in over 150 years. According to a *Crimson* poll conducted last weekend, the student body is in favor of Summers retaining his post by a margin of three-to-one.

—*The Harvard Crimson*

U of Ill. reprints Muhammad image

The editor in chief and opinions page editor at the University of Illinois were suspended when *The Daily Illini* republished the cartoons satirizing the Prophet Muhammad that first appeared in a Danish newspaper last September and resulted in violent protests throughout pockets of the Muslim community. Muslim students and other members of the University of Illinois staged a protest on the main quadrangle of campus last Tuesday following the publication of the cartoons in the Feb. 9 issue.

The cartoons ran on the opinions page beside a column by editor in chief Acton Gorton explaining why he published them. Last Wednesday's edition of *The Daily Illini* contained an announcement that the editor in chief and opinions page editor, Chuck Prochaska, had been suspended.

Most major American newspapers — such as *The New York Times* — have not printed the stirring images, while some college publications — including *The Harvard Crimson* and the University of Wisconsin newspaper — have printed some of the cartoons.

Fellow Illinois student editors say Gorton and Prochaska did not properly consult members of the newspaper before printing the cartoons.

In the days that followed publication, the newspaper ran an apology and met with Muslim students to promise more complete coverage on the issue.

—*The New York Times*

Ethnic slurs spark discussions

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

on the details of the case."

The incident sparked several on-campus discussions about racial tension at the College, including an emergency meeting organized in the wake of the incident by African American Alliance (AAA) Secretary Aifuwa Ehigiator '08.

Ehigiator later said, "Bigger than everything, I thought that this attack on this African-American student was an attack on everyone who is against racism. In my opinion, this is why AAA decided to have the meeting. As students, we were all victims."

When classes resumed after February break, Spears facilitated a second meeting, called in response to the Jan. 30 student-organized meeting. This past Wednesday, Spears and other College administrators joined students in Carr Hall to further discuss student reactions to the event. While the meeting was not widely publicized, Spears explained that the second meeting was designed to meet directly and talk directly with students who had been involved in the AAA discussion.

"The conversation at the meetings ranged well beyond [the January] incident," said Spears, noting that in addition to addressing the racial climate at the College, many students "talked in some detail and very honestly about their feelings ... of discomfort on campus."

Guttentag and Spears acknowledged that, in the wake of incidents such as this, the College administration must maneuver a difficult path between alerting the student body and maintaining confidentiality for judicial processes. According to students present at last week's meeting, several students felt that the College was remiss in failing to issue a campus-wide statement acknowledging the event and its gravity.

"We're in a tough spot, when an incident like this takes place. The rules governing the judicial process limit our ability to talk about these incidents in full detail," said Spears. "We're all aware of the need to communicate more fully about these incidents."

Gus Jordan, director of the Scott Center for Spiritual and Religious Life and chair of 2005-2006 Human Relations Committee, said, "I thought the meeting last week with students was genuine and heartfelt." Jordan, along with Guttentag, confirmed that the HRC is taking the lead role in using this incident as a case study for formal policy recommendation.

"My hope is that the recommendations of the HRC will build on other good recommendations from the past, and will continue to push us toward becoming a more healthy and hospitable community."

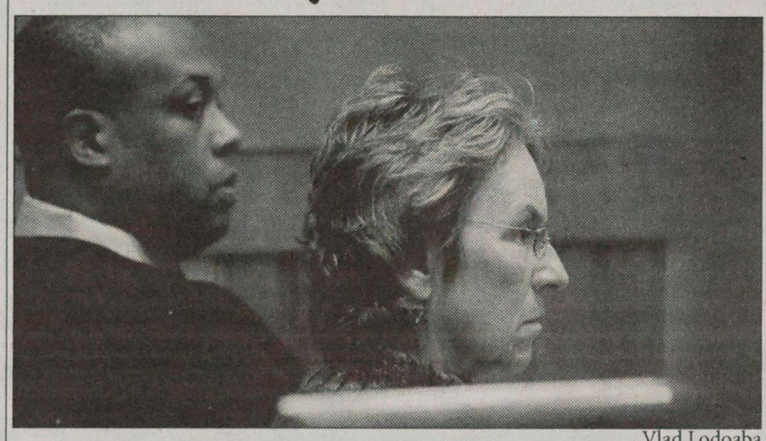
Despite these largely optimistic sentiments, Guttentag admitted that the problem of racial tensions is a particularly difficult challenge for a small liberal-arts college.

"I'm sad to report that I have been affiliated as a student or a staff member at five different selective colleges and universities in the last 20 years, and that racial tensions and incidents have occurred at every one of them," she said. "The good news is that this is not a Middlebury-specific problem. The bad news is that this is a national societal problem that manifests itself everywhere."

In addition to acknowledging the difficulty of addressing such widespread racial tensions, students and administrators also expressed a sense of disappointment that this incident occurred within the Middlebury community.

"The truth is that although I recognize that racism exists everywhere in this country, I never thought that I would ever hear incidents like this occur in a college where people are supposed to be educated," said Ehigiator.

Faculty convenes with Liebowitz



Vlad Lodoaba

Marichal Gentry and Ann Hanson look on at Monday's faculty meeting.

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od of calculating the ratio had differed greatly from the method outlined by *U.S. News & World Report* and followed by the College's peer institutions. Leibowitz explained that although the College's previous method is one that the administration considered more honest and accurate, it has now adopted the more common method, which has yielded a lower student-faculty ratio. Leibowitz claimed that by reporting the 11:1 ratio, the College was "handicapping" itself. Emerson explained that the old method was "more preferable and relevant. The problem is that there is no way of getting comparable data from peer institutions." The primary difference in calculations results from how part-time faculty is accounted for statistically. The school feels it is important that it compare "apples to apples," according to Emerson.

Another significant change in reporting is one that is less positive for the College and has been advised against. For the first time, the College will release all the reported SAT scores of admitted students rather than the scores of only those who chose to use them in their application. This will significantly widen the SAT score range of admitted students, a range that was previously smaller than those of both Williams and Amherst.

When a professor inquired as to why the college cannot simply forgo participation in the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings, President Liebowitz explained that the journal would obtain the necessary information anyway, and added that in the past, Reed College made the decision not to participate and, as a result, found itself ranked 64th.

Next on the agenda, Bill Heart spoke about the Ad Hoc Education Affairs Committee on Grading that formed in response to discussions regarding college grade inflation. The Committee, headed by Associate Professor of Biology Andrea Lloyd, has made recommendations for policy changes that it will share electronically with the faculty. Soon after, the Committee will convene open meetings to discuss its recommendations, and those recommendations will be brought to the floor and voted upon in April.

Finally, Leibowitz took the floor and reported on the two primary decisions made in a previous board meeting. He updated the faculty on the Starr Restoration Project, which has recently seen an increase in estimated costs from $20 million to $36 million, as well as on the College's Comprehensive Fee, which saw the lowest increase this year in comparison to all peer institutions. Lastly, he informed the faculty about conversations he had in Student Government Affairs meetings regarding student consumption of alcohol. He said that it was "astounding to hear" how much alcohol students are consuming and that, in his view, it was "out of control."

public safety log

FEBRUARY 14, 2006 TO FEBRUARY 19, 2006

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
2/14/06	Unknown	Theft	Keys	McCullough Student Center	No Suspects
2/14/06	9:43 p.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Fletcher	Referred to Commons Dean
2/15/06	Unknown	Theft	Credit Card	N/A	Referred to MPD
2/16/06	11:26 p.m.	Alcohol	Possession by a Minor	Stewart	Referred to Commons Dean
2/16/06	9:25 p.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Gifford	Referred to Commons Dean
2/16/06	11:40 p.m.	Intoxicated Person	Student	Outside	Referred to Commons Dean
2/17/06	11:33 p.m.	Alcohol	Possession by a Minor	Hadley	Referred to Commons Dean
2/17/06	11:58 p.m.	Alcohol	Possession by a Minor	Brackett (Tavern)	Referred to Commons Dean
2/17/06	11:30 p.m.	Alcohol	Possession by a Minor	Hadley	Referred to Commons Dean
2/17/06	11:55 p.m.	Alcohol	Possession by a Minor	Milliken	Referred to Commons Dean
2/17/06	11:30 p.m.	Alcohol	Possession by a Minor	Hadley	Referred to Commons Dean
2/18/06	1:55 a.m.	Vandalism	Carpet	Lang	No Suspects
2/18/06	1:39 a.m.	Theft	Emergency Phone Light	Porter Field Road	No Suspects
2/18/06	2:55 a.m.	Unlawful Trespass	N/A	Brackett (Tavern)	Case Closed
2/19/06	Unknown	Vandalism	Vehicle	C Lot	No Suspects
2/19/06	1:31 a.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Starr	Referred to Commons Dean
2/19/06	3:11 a.m.	Disorderly Conduct	Fighting	Prescott (ADP)	Referred to Commons Dean

Students take stage for mid-year elections

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Meet the seven students vying for three seats opening up in the Student Government Association Senate this month. Campaigns kicked off on Monday and voting within Brainerd Commons, the junior class and the first-year Feb class with take place on Monday, Feb. 27 through noon on Tuesday, Feb. 28.

—content by Thomas C. Drescher, Polly Johnson and Lisie Mehlman, layout by Laura Kuhl and Polly Johnson

HALF-YEAR JUNIOR SENATOR

Leigh Polfer

Leigh Polfer '07 is a history major from Kansas City who enjoyed her experience serving as proxy Speaker of the House during J-Term. She is interested in pursuing the implementation of a SafeRides program and responding to the growing trend of off-campus socialization. She is looking forward to cooperating with the Senate Transportation Committee. She also strives to work toward extended dining hall hours and the inclusion of washers and dryers in every dorm on campus.

FIRST-YEAR FEB SENATOR

Nick Naso

Nick Naso '09.5 has several years of experience in student government and believes in speaking his mind. He wants to serve on SGA so that he can do his part in maintaining the unparalleled sense of Middlebury-ness that he has quickly grown to love during his short time here. One idea he would love to see come to fruition is the College listing required books for courses online before school commenced so that students could more easily purchase less expensive books online. He is also interested in resurrecting the MiddCard.

Gita Eglite

Gita Eglite '09.5 is from Latvia and believes she could serve the SGA well because of her ability to listen to people and her genuine interest in achieving fairness through compromising. Eglite believes her staunch Febism makes her an excellent candidate and she would feel privileged to represent her class on SGA. Her inspiration for running for this position are all the amazing Febs and Middlebury College.

Dan Rosmarin

New Feb Dan Rosmarin '09.5 is enthusiastic about Middlebury. Wanting to "amplify the student voice," he is open to suggestions from his fellow students and is eager to represent the new Feb class. He is having trouble finding flaws with Middlebury – after all, he "applied to Midd because [he] liked it, not because it had issues [he] could fix." Noting the excited attitude of his Feb orientation, Rosmarin hopes to maintain that excitement among his class.

BRAINERD COMMONS SENATOR

Jessica Singleton

After participating in both J-Term alcohol policy forum discussions, Jessican Singleton '08.5 was inspired to run for a senatorial seat. She plans to help bridge the gap between students' "legal rights and the practical, inevitable forms of social interaction."

Singleton's platform is comprised of three objectives: social life, transportation and morale. She said she feels disconnected from the SGA and perceives a need for increased communication with the student body, though she praised their work on the SafeRide Bill, and cited its implementation as her first priority as Brainerd Commons senator.

Kyle Alden

Kyle Alden '08.5, hailing from Caribou, Maine, is seeking the position of Brainerd Commons Senator. Alden hopes to see greater communication among the student body and the student government. He also hopes to create a more active SGA that can educate the Middlebury community, and it is his goal "to create a Middlebury community that has an informed conscious," adding, "A politically active student community will teach us the efficacy of the democratic process and allow us to be active participants in our society of the Middlebury bubble and beyond."

Annie Williams

Having served last year as the Atwater Commons Senator, Annie Williams '07 is running for the Brainerd Commons Senator on a simple, direct platform: giving Middlebury students more of what they want. Williams hopes to make the SGA more active in its dealings with the administration so that the students are really heard. Other issues she is interested in addressing are the addition of another modular home and extended wireless access. Like several other candidates, she appreciates the merits of the SafeRide Bill and hopes "that the administration fully considers the merits of the Bill and the need for such a program here at Middlebury."

Midd8 symposium attracts global attention

By Liz Campbell
Staff Writer

In response to a growing deficiency of student awareness and activism on the Middlebury College campus, a group of students is organizing the Midd8 Global Spring Symposium in order to increase student participation in global affairs and to enhance the role of young people in the future of the world. The symposium will take place from April 20 to April 22 and will be modeled on the Live 8 concerts, held in July 2005 to create awareness of poverty, and will seek to address the Millennium 8 Goals set out by the United Nations.

The idea for Midd8 originated after several College students attended a conference sponsored by Americans for Informed Democracy at Yale University over the summer. The conference aimed to bring together active students across the country for a day of workshops, guest speakers and discussions focused on techniques for raising global awareness in the United States.

Upon arrival at Middlebury in the fall, these students, led by Co-Directors Courtney Matson '06.5 and Divya Khosla '06, began planning an event that would increase activism on campus and throughout the College community.

"We were all really inspired by the conference, so we ended up meeting, and we all had the same thought – let's do something like this at Middlebury," said Matson. "We wanted to have the same sort of event, so we started out on a small scale. Since then, it's become this massive symposium."

The eight Millennium Development Goals — which range from halving extreme poverty to halting the spread of HIV/AIDS and providing universal primary education, all by the target date of 2015 — form a blueprint agreed to by all the world's countries and all the world's leading development institutions.

Focused directly on these eight goals, the symposium will include a first panel discussion on Thursday, April 20, that will discuss the actual goals, a second panel discussion that will investigate their implementation and a keynote speaker who will talk about their global importance.

"Our philosophy is that if we create a symposium that has enough breadth, we can impact 95 percent of the College community," said Matson. "We picked the Millennium Goals to create a framework to get more people involved. With these eight goals, everyone can find something that they are interested in, whether it's sustainable development, global partnerships or promoting women's rights."

The group organizing the symposium is not only seeking to involve students and the College community, however. It has developed three different target levels of involvement — campus, local and global — and has been successful thus far in achieving recognition across the country. The three choices for keynote speaker of the symposium, who will address the College community on Friday, April 21, are former U.S. Senator Bill Bradley and current Senators Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama, and students from five different schools — Harvard, Connecticut College, Stanford, Yale and Columbia — who also attended the AID conference have expressed significant interest in organizing the same event at the same time next year on their respective campuses. Furthermore, the BBC and CNN have both contacted the College to broadcast the event.

Matson remarked, "One of the big strengths of the symposium is that it is generating a lot of attention for Middlebury. In that sense, we have really lucked out. And hopefully now we can get all of the students involved in something that's really good for both the local and global community. This has the potential to be great for Middlebury students and for college students across the United States."

Also working with the group organizing the symposium are several other organizations on campus, such as the Student Government Association, Middlebury College Activities Board and the Environmental Council. The group is aiming to incorporate as many organizations, departments and administrative offices as possible in order to increase cooperation and awareness throughout the community.

Matson emphasized, "It is so important to connect student interests because otherwise, it's hard to accomplish anything. This is a great way to get student groups working together."

"Student awareness and activism is so important now," said Matson. "We are the next generation of leaders, and we can really impact not only our own future but also that of other generations and other countries."

localnews

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SPY VS. SPY
VT LEGISLATORS QUESTION LEGALITY OF SPYING AT CONGRESSIONAL HEARING

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ONE IS SILVER AND VERMONT IS GOLD
VERMONTERS NOT NEW TO WINTER OLYMPIC GLORY

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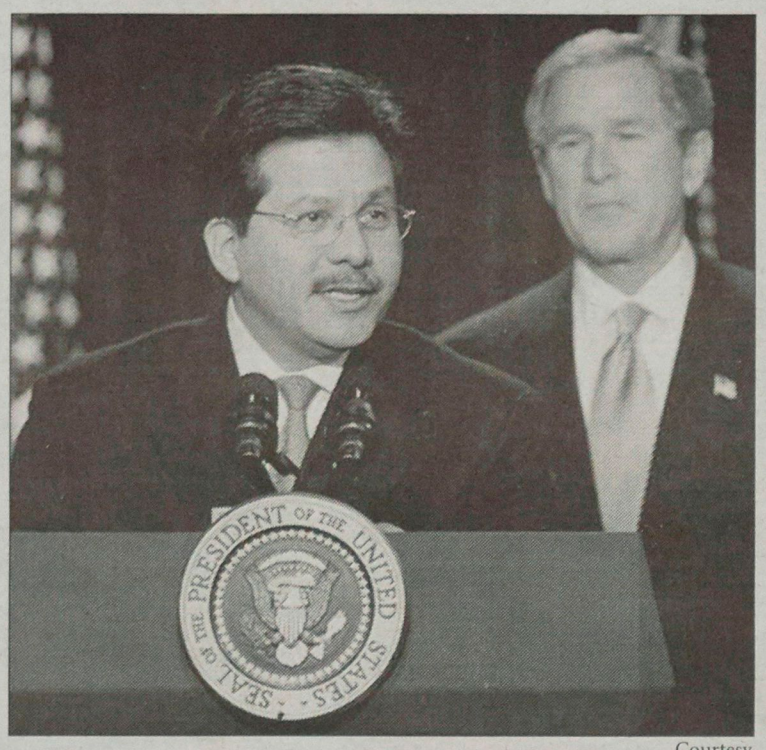
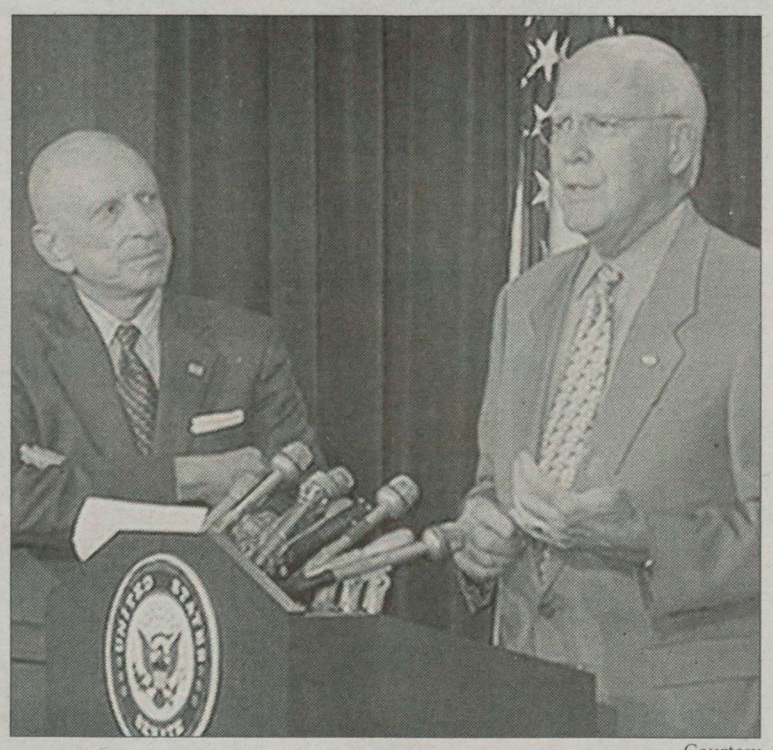
PRO-LIFE PUSHERS IN VERMONT
MILTON RESIDENTS SET TO VOTE ON PARENTAL CONSENT AT TOWN MEETING

8
EAT OUT AND EAT GOOD
NEW RESTAURANT REVOLUTIONIZES MIDDLEBURY DINING SCENE



Courtesy

Attorney General Alberto Gonzales defends the governments wiretaps.



Courtesy

Meanwhile, Senator Leahy makes the case for individual privacy rights.

Surveillance sparks senate debate

By Andrea Glaessner
Local News Editor

At Congressional hearings of the National Security Agency (NSA) in early February, Attorney General Alberto Gonzales faced a skeptical Senate armed with questions regarding the legality and modus operandi of the highly covert terrorist surveillance program. In his testimony, Gonzales sought to instill that the Bush administration's authorization of the National Security Agency's post 9/11 terrorist surveillance program was both "lawful and necessary."

The Attorney General argued in favor of the surveillance of phone calls and emails between US citizens and persons overseas without warrants in a lengthy discussion of justification but offered severly limited responses about the operational procedures of the program arguing that discussing details would endanger the necessary confidentiality of the surveillance program.

Furthermore the Attorney General made it quite clear that the Bush administration has no intentions of slowing down in its search for information about al-Qaeda via domestic surveillance, arguing that that the process to obtain a warrant under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA, passed in 1978) is a cumbersome bureaucratic obstacle and inhibits the "speed and the agility" necessary in the conflict with al Qaeda which he dubbed "a war of information."

At the hearing, many legislators expressed frustration with Gonzales' avoidance to address questions that the attorney general feared would "put the lives of Americans at risk." According to the New York Times report of the hearing, "the contentious tone for the debate Monday was clear in several sharp exchanges, including one in which Sen. Patrick J. Leahy, Democrat of Vermont, frustrated at not getting answers, said, "Of course, I'm sorry, Mr. Attorney General, I forgot you can't answer any questions that might be relevant to this."

In fact, weeks after the hearing, Leahy is unsatisfied with the Bush administration's failure to address and respond to his own questions about the program. In a follow-up letter to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld after receiving an inadequate response to questions the Senator posed about the program, Leahy claims, "what information I did gather from the letter paints a troubling picture of a program that has gone well beyond a reasonable effort to protect the Department's installations and personnel."

Leahy expressed great concern over the Administration's purposeful withholding of certain information that he believes is necessary to be available to him in order to protect his constituents in Vermont. While he understands that revealing too much information about the program may aid terrorists in planning future attacks, Leahy has justified concerns that he feels the Administration has thus far failed to address.

In the letter to the secretary of defense, the Senator explains, "I am equally concerned about the privacy of innocent Americans who may be placed on these [terrorist watch] lists, and who, once included, are not removed under the Pentagon's routine purging of information after 90 days."

Leahy had discovered evidence that protests against the war in Iraq by such peaceful groups as the Quakers were apparently included in the Department of Defense's threat database known as Threat and Local Observation Notice (TALON), which is maintained by the recently established Counterintelligence Field Activity (CIFA).

The Senator asserts that he is not arguing against the action of wiretapping al-Qaeda, saying in his statement at the February hearing, "Congress has given the President authority to monitor these messages legally, with checks to guard against abuses when American's conversations and email are being monitored." It is the fact that "the President has chosen to do it illegally, without those safeguards", namely the lawful agreement to pass all requests to monitor domestic spying through a FISA court that has appalled Leahy and many other legislators, both Democratic and Republican.

"Nobody is above the law, especially not the President and Congress must demand accountability."
—Peter Welch, Democratic candidate

Many members of Congress have great confidence in the FISA law and find that the NSA's ignorance of its provisions is unlawful. The statute has been updated and revised five times since September 11, 2001. According to Leahy's statement, the law expressly states that it provides the "exclusive" source of authority for wiretapping for intelligence purposes.

The Senator comments further that the historical context for FISA affirms the necessity of the statute. In his statement at the hearings, Leahy gravely reminds the audience that the law was enacted after decades of abuses by the Executive branch, including the wiretapping of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and other political opponents of earlier government officials, and the White House "horrors" of the Nixon years, during which the President asserted that whatever he did was legal because he was the President.

Leahy is certainly not alone in his concern over this fundamental issue that questions the integrity of the constitutional necessity of checks and balances among government branches and the constitutionally guaranteed right to privacy. Vermont state senator Peter Welch, a Democratic candidate for Congress was one of one hundred plus cosigners of a letter in the Vermont legislature opposing this "disregard for Vermonters' basic rights."

A staunch defender of civil liberties, Welch summed his response to the surveillance program debate saying "effective public safety does not necessitate that we disregard the most fundamental rights we have as citizens. Even with a system in place to assure our security and protect our civil liberties, the Bush administration instead chose to disregard the law of the land. Nobody is above the law, especially not the President and Congress must demand accountability."

But not all Vermont politicians have felt that the surveillance programs of the Bush administration may be considered such a direct threat to civil liberties. Rich Tarrant, a Republican candidate for the Senate argues that "the power struggle between the two branches of government is historical. Especially in World Wars I and II, the government had the legal right to spy on national calls within borders. This is not some new phenomenon that's suddenly happening in the United States' democracy. It's the age-old argument about balance of power."

Tarrant's comment is aligned with Gonzales' view that the "terrorist surveillance program fits within the 'special needs' category",which dismisses the Fourth Amendment right against warrantless searches and seizures because "the purpose of the search [is] distinguishable from ordinary general crime control."

Rather than argue the constitutionality of the current program, Tarrant would like to see collective action to devise a new law to replace FISA if both parties agree that is the proper solution. According to Tarrant, it is perhaps more important to avoid "prejudging and partisan hatred" and "to pull together as a country against the common enemy." He explains that "when we have terrorists like the Jihadists who want to end our existence you have to recognize the severity of our threat. We have a common enemy that is really vicious and this enemy has been trying since the year 700 to bring people down who don't fall within the confines of their belief system."

The wiretapping debate is fundamentally about the balance between security and liberty as well as the balance of power within government. It is a universal debate, defying partisan lines and affecting all citizens of this country. The New York Times noted that after his daylong testimony, Mr. Gonzales still faced skepticism from Republicans, notably Pennsylvania Republican Senator Arlen Specter, the Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and a senior member of the Appropriations and Veterans Affairs.

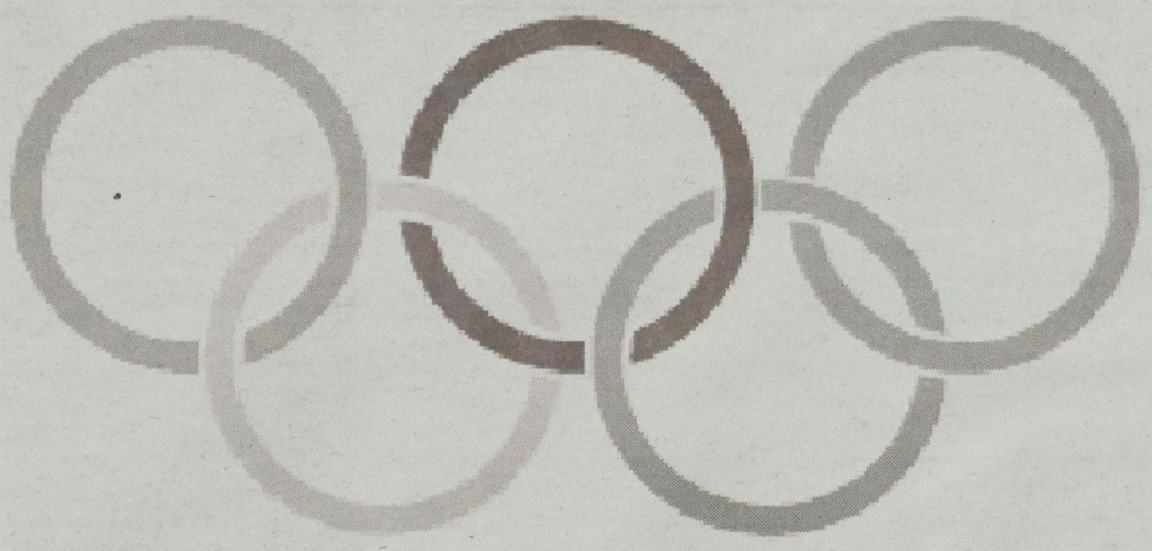
According to the Times article, "At the end of the hearing, Mr. Specter pronounced a harsh verdict: he was not persuaded by the administration's case…Mr. Specter urged that the administration let the court "pass judgment" on the legality of the program. "Because if they disagree with you," he said, "it's the equilibrium of our constitutional system which is involved."

Vermonters reclaim Olympic gold

By Christine Fisher
Staff Writer

Of the 211 athletes representing the United States at the XX Winter Olympic Games in Torino, Italy, seven proudly hail from Vermont: Andy Newell of Shaftsbury, Andrew Johnson of Greensboro, Chip Knight of Stowe, Hannah Kearney of Norwich, Hannah Teter of Belmont, Lindsey Jacobellis of Stratton, and Kelly Clark of West Dover.

Newell and Johnson are cross-country skiers, Knight is an alpine skier, Kearney is a freestyle skier, specializing in moguls, and Teter, Jacobellis, and Clark compete in the two snowboarding events, the standard halfpipe and its lesser-known cousin, the snowboardcross, or boardercross, which makes its Olympic debut this year.



Kearney, though an Olympic rookie, was initially the gold medal favorite for freestyle skiing, mainly on account of her shining performance at the 2005 world championships, where she placed first. Unfortunately, she did not even make it to the finals after a terrible run did not qualify her to advance to the next round.

With Kearney out of the mix, the girls on the snowboarding circuit have been responsible for accumulating the most Vermont bling thus far, with Teter taking gold in the halfpipe and Jacobellis seizing silver in the new snowboardcross event. Clark, who conquered the halfpipe in 2002, just narrowly missed a place on the medals podium this year, as she earned fourth place for her performance in the same event. Even so, the successes of Teter and Jacobellis bring the running total for medals won in snowboarding by natives of the Green Mountain State to five: in addition to Clark's 2002 gold, Ross Powers has snatched two medals for Vermont, a halfpipe bronze in 1998 and a gold in 2002.

The snowboardcross mainly differs from the halfpipe in that it is not scored by judges; instead, it is a race, plain and simple. Four snowboarders leave the gate and the first one to the bottom, after a long series of jumps and other obstacles on a 1500 meter course, is the winner. Attempting to earn stylistic points for "artistic impression" is therefore not truly necessary. All that really matters -- to win, anyway -- is getting to the bottom of the slope first.

For Jacobellis, remembering this simple piece of information may have meant the difference between silver and gold. With a substantial fifty yard lead, it seemed fairly certain that Jacobellis would win the race, making her the second Vermonter to strike gold in five days – Teter had won the halfpipe a few days earlier on February 13. However, when an overly stylistic jump landed Jacobellis on her back instead of her feet, Switzerland's Tanja Frieden glided on by to unexpectedly take first place.

Jacobellis, who attended Stratton Mountain School, commented on the jump that cost her the gold: "I was having fun. Snowboarding is fun. I was ahead. I wanted to share my enthusiasm with the crowd. I messed up." Peter Foley, the U.S. Snowboarding Head Coach, did not seem to harbor any animosity toward Jacobellis, either, as he echoed a similar attitude: "If she tweaked it too much, so what? If she got caught up in the moment, what're you going to do? If people think that's a big deal, they still miss the point of snowboarding, probably."

This stylistic aspect of the sport, the part about getting caught up in the moment and being less concerned with the final outcome than the performance itself, seems aptly expressed through the bold motto of the Vermont Militia (V.T.M.), a group to which fellow Olympian and Stratton Mountain School attendee Newell belongs, that reads quite clearly and simply: "I'm from Vermont; I do what I want."

Newell, as evidenced by his mere membership in the V.T.M, is one of the edgier Olympians whose biography proved to be quite interesting reading material. Though a cross country skier by trade (he competes in the sprint and team sprint events), Newell, staying loyal to his "do what he wants" mantra, has discovered innovative ways to blend cross country skiing with snowboarding and alpine skiing.

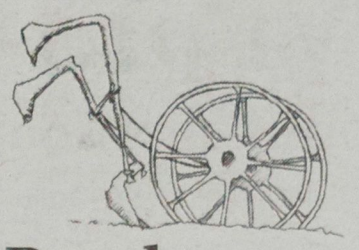
While attending Stratton Mountain School, he noted that his friends were mostly alpine skiers and snowboarders. When they would all go out and ski together, he would hit the terrain park, halfpipe, and tabletops in a most unconventional manner - using his cross country skis. Newell's unique approach to the sport has been coined "extreme cross country" and is steadily picking up speed and popularity.

The Olympic roster also boasts two Middlebury College attendees, Andrew Johnson and Jimmy Cochran. Johnson attended Middlebury until 1999 and this is his second Olympic performance: he also competed in the 2002 Games, with his best finish in the 30 km freestyle. Jimmy Cochran, not mentioned earlier because he grew up in New Hampshire, skied for both Middlebury and the University of Vermont. He makes his Olympic debut at Torino in the alpine skiing events.

Kimberly Bowker

Brrr....it's cold out there

The long-awaited arrival of a recent cold spell after weeks of mild winter weather helped creat this magnficent ice formation in downtown Middlebury. Skiers, Winter Carnival attendees and natural ice sculpture enthusiasts alike will appreciate the chilly turn taken by this year's abnormally balmy winter.



Rural Banter

BY ERICA GOODMAN

Senior year, spring semester. CSO keeps sending out emails to apply for this job, send in a resume for that job. But I am no closer to having a plan for next year than I am to knowing what I'll have for dinner next Tuesday. Like my fellow classmates, I examine the offerings with an eye on location, benefits (and earnings), good experience and, quite frankly, something that just sounds interesting.

However, what does not appear in the job descriptions as I navigate the MOJO maze is whether or not the profession is safe. Careers in finance or education, non-profit administration or law are not generally considered hazardous to one's health. Even work in the highest-security government positions and CIA recruitment do not offer a disclaimer. In fact, the individuals most likely to be killed on the job aren't the ones donning bulletproof vests to capture criminals or partaking in secret agent missions a la Alias. No, the workers most likely to die while at work are the ones whose labor helps to provide us with our daily needs.

Loggers, pilots and fishers fill the top three spots for the most hazardous professions. Ranking number six in the most dangerous jobs according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) are farm occupations. The risks taken by men and women throughout America as they raise animals and plants and cultivate and harvest crops are largely left unrecognized as we sit down to enjoy our three meals a day.

Farming is a dangerous job. The tractors and machinery used by farmers and ranchers, for one, can prove very unsafe. Forty percent of occupational fatalities for farmers in 2004 were the result of non-highway vehicle accidents, cites the BLS. Computers may be the source of ailments such as carpel tunnel syndrome in the office, but the risks are a bit greater on the farm. From unguarded moving parts to their rollover potential, farm machines have largely contributed to the hazards of rural life.

Very few, if any, Middlebury College graduates have agriculture on their mind as they pursue their future ventures in the workplace. A quick MOJO search for farming offers up financial analyst positions for State Farm Insurance or a Foot Locker management position in West Farm, Conn., but little in the way of actual farm work. Farms can be wonderful places, with fresh air and plenty of open space, but generally a career in agriculture lacks the appeal of job promotions and six-figure salaries. And even the farmers are not granted the heroic status as individuals who selflessly lay their lives on the line each day so that the rest of us may enjoy our own existence a bit more safely and simply.

Vt pro-lifers push for parental consent

Anti-abortion activists gain ground in Milton Town Meeting petition drive

By Katherine N. Doorley
Local News Editor

Anti-abortion activists in Vermonthave just reached another milestone on their pro-choice agenda. Residents of the town of Milton, in Chittenden County, have become the latest community in the state to succeed in placing a parental notification recommendation on this spring's Town Meeting ballot. While acceptance of the reccomendation would not put a parental notification requirement into effect, as only the state legislature has the power to do so, it would send a clear message to the state government that several towns in Vermont would support such a regulation.

Historically, Vermont has been a pro-choice state. While the rural nature of the state means that 43 percent of Vermont counties do not have an abortion provider, there were, as of 2000, 11 providers in the state, and every metropolitan area and many other smaller towns such as Middlebury and Barre have clinics where abortions are performed. In addition, Vermont has some of the most choice-friendly laws in the country, despite the fact that the legislature has never actually overturned a constitutional provision that makes abortion illegal to perform or receive within state borders. Although it exists, this law is regularly ignored and the state lacks many of the more restrictive abortion laws such as mandatory waiting periods, limits on public funding for abortions or mandatory notification laws. Vermont also has laws on the books that provide funding for low-income women who desire to have abortions. These laws have resulted in Vermont receiving a grade of A from NARAL, a pro-choice activism organization. Despite these unrestrictive laws, Vermont still constitute only about .1 percent of all abortions in the United States or about 1,677 out of 1.3 million abortions performed in 2004.

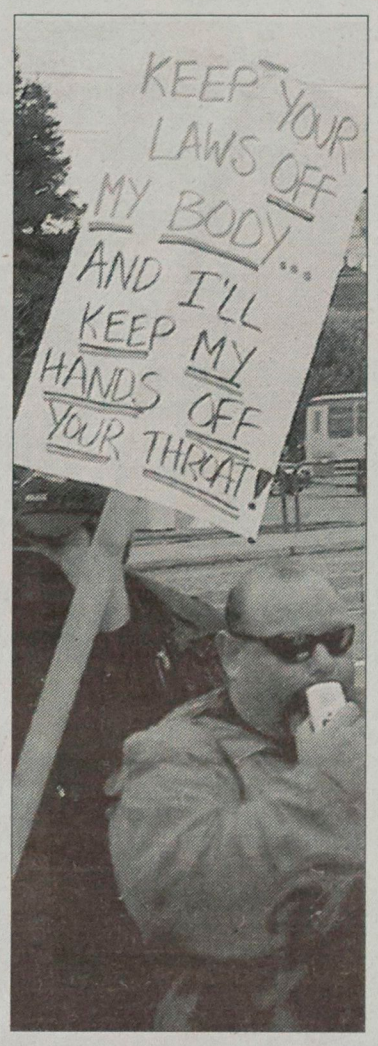
The Milton effort began as a petition by an organization calling itself Caring Vermont Parents. They are in the process of organizing several other petitions across the state in an effort to get their Parental Notification Initiative placed on the docket of as many Town Meetings as possible this year. As their director Guy Page noted, "Sometimes Vermonters can't just leave it to the legislators. When lawmakers' failure to act threatens the safety and well-being of children, it's time for citizen action." Their petition in Milton gathered 343 signatures for inclusion on the ballot. This number represents close to 10 percent of the eligible voting population in Milton, so the notification requirement which states, "Shall our state legislature support legislation that will protect young girls by requiring clinics to notify at least one parent prior to providing a surgical or chemical abortion to their minor daughter, with special provisions to protect girls in abusive situations?" will be voted on in March by the town's citizens.

"Sometimes Vermonters can't just leave it to the legislators. When lawmakers' failure to act threatens the safety and well-being of children, it's time for citizen action."

—Guy Page, Director of Caring Vermont Parents

The relative ease in which an abortion can be obtained in Vermont has concerned many anti-abortion activists around the state. Several failed efforts to pass various laws restricting abortions or placing conditions upon the receipt of abortions have been voted down by the state legislature, which has been consistently pro-choice. Thus, even if such a recommendation were to reach the state legislature, there is no guarantee that there would be enough votes to enact a comparable law. In the 2005-2006 legislative year three parental notification bills were proposed in the House and one bill was proposed in the Senate. But none of the four have of yet left their respective committees. In the same legislative session, the House passed a bill in honor of the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* which stated, "That this legislative body opposes any state or federal legislation that diminishes the rights of women provided by the Supreme Court decision in *Roe v. Wade*, thus codifying the legislature's support for the right to choose.

While the number of communities with parental notification proposals on their Town Meeting agendas, and the steady stream of protestors gathering outside of Planned Parenthood clinics and other locations across the state where abortions are know to be performed, is certainly indicative of a trend in popular opinion supported by a motivated and organized grassroots movement, it by no means indicates that a law of a similar nature will be imminently forthcoming. In fact, given the General Assembly's traditional support for abortion rights, as well as the fact that most Vt. public officials are pro-choice it would seem as if there is only a limited chance that a parental notification law will be passed in Vermont any time soon.



Courtesy

Pro-choice activists rally in support of abortions rights, which are being challenged by several ballot initiatives for parental consent laws, which will be debated by various Vt. communities at Town Meetings this spring.

Abortion in Vermont by the Numbers:

11: number of abortion providers in the state, including all urban areas

43 percent: number of Vermont counties without an abortion provider

1,677: number of abortions performed in Vermont in 2004

5: number of pro-life bills stalled in committee in the General Assembly

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THE LOCAL FLAVOR

By Joshua Carson
Local News Editor

Something revolutionary occurred last weekend in the town of Middlebury — a new restaurant opened. Expanding from its flagship store in Vergennes, Eat Good Food has opened a second location on Main Street right next to the Alpine Shop, ushering in a fresh perspective on dining to the Middlebury area. Steeped in the Italian philosophy that eating is not just a means towards sustenance but is something to be savored and enjoyed, Eat Good Food offers a limited, yet carefully selected, sampling of Italian-influenced dishes at moderate prices and is sure to become a Middlebury mainstay.

With high ceilings and open-brick walls, the interior of the restaurant is spacious and welcoming. Diners can choose between an upper seating area with tables and a lower area with bench seating. The upper area offers more room and privacy, but the bench area would be great for a group. And for those who pay attention to the little things, the salt and pepper shakers are pretty cool.

The atmosphere was charged for the opening night last Saturday and by 7:30 p.m. the place was packed. Despite an initial request for patience from the pleasant, but understandably anxious, hostess, the meal went off without a hitch. The service was very polite and helpful, making recommendations and providing personal opinions on wine, entrees and deserts. But the real surprise was the food. In keeping with Italian tradition, Eat Good Food purchases products from local producers, such as beef, chicken, cheese, eggs, fruit and vegetables. The fresh local ingredients combined with an Italian flair produced an innovative and unique flavor. Interesting appetizers include a beet and shaved fennel salad ($8) and grilled octopus with wheatberry and salsa verde salad ($9). As for entrees, the lamb shank ($21) was excellent. Served with stewed tomato and celeriac, the tender meat was practically falling off the bone. This dish is highly recommended. The bay-roasted chicken with liver crostini and grilled radicchio ($16) is a safe choice. While there is nothing intrinsically striking about the dish, the balsamic sauce complemented the chicken well.

It's not a bad idea to order one of the side dishes to round out the meal, especially if you are feeling particularly hungry. Other entrée choices include fava bean ravioli with sautéed fennel ($17), pork rib agrodolce and broccoli rabe ($19) and a steak ($22).

And don't leave before perusing the dessert menu. The mocha chocolate soufflé ($7) was the perfect finale to a delicious meal — cool and crispy on the outside, warm and gooey on the inside. The lavender crème brulée ($5) is was also exceptional. The faint taste of lavender is a tasteful twist on a traditional French dessert. Eat Good Food also offers a wide selection of coffee.

Overall, Eat Good Food is a great choice for any special occasion. While a little pricey to visit regularly on a College budget, it should be added to the list of eateries when the parents are in town or you're looking for a classy meal right down the street.

Eat Good Food
51 Main St., Middlebury

Reviewer recommends:

Beet & shaved fennel salad
Lamb Shank
Mocha chocolate soufflé

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it's all online.

middleburycampus.com

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opinions

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Editorial

Racism issues remain unresolved

Racial issues have continually made headlines in *The Middlebury Campus* in the past several years. Three years ago *Campus* opinions pages were filled with debates over affirmative action. A "Cowboys and Indians" themed party in the fall of 2004 also sparked controversy. A crime alert e-mail that referred to a suspect as having "nappy hair" raised eyebrows in September 2005. Though O'Neil Walker eventually withdrew accusations of racial discrimination in the College's Judicial Process, *The Village Voice* published a scathing, and ultimately unfounded, criticism of the College entitled "Busted for Blackness at Middlebury."

Many of these recent accusations of discrimination at the College in the past few years have not amounted to much, and some in hindsight even seem blown out of proportion. Ironically, the most recent issue — one that seems to warrant the most attention — has received almost none in the month following its occurrence.

Though little information has come to light, College administrators confirm that a white student directed racial epithets at a black student on the evening of Friday, Jan. 27. Reports are conflicting, but it seems evident that the verbal conflict escalated into a physical encounter in which blows were exchanged.

After hearing about the incident, the African American Alliance called an emergency meeting. College administrators followed up by organizing a meeting with the same students, but have not issued a formal statement to the broader community or formulated an open discussion in response to the incident. The issue deserves consideration by the College community, and the student body should not be excluded from such dialogue. For discussions to have any chance of succeeding, they must bridge racial lines and include distinct groups. The deliberative dialogue program, which encourages a non-adversarial approach to complex societal issues, was widely publicized in the beginning of the school year and its inclusion as part of the first-year orientation program was deemed a success. A similar approach could be highly effective, and attract more interest, when organized in response to an issue such as that which occurred on Jan. 27.

However, Dean of Students Tim Spears emphasized that the College's judicial process limits the College's ability to address the issue in an open manner. A balance must be found to enable the judicial process to remain closed and private while allowing for the prompt and public discussion of broader issues raised by an incident such as a racial conflict. Issues that could be addressed without threatening the privacy of the two students facing disciplinary action include posting information on the proper way to report verbal harassment and how to deal with a friend or colleague who expresses racist views.

Save newspapers

Not surprisingly, members of *The Middlebury Campus* staff would be greatly saddened to see the permanent discontinuation of the Collegiate Readership Program. Filling dining halls with quality print such as *The New York Times* is one of the best ways possible to temporarily transport students outside the Middlebury bubble.

If students are failing to clean up the newspapers, putting an unnecessary burden on dining hall staff, temporarily discontinuing the service does not seem to be a way to alleviate the problem. Instead, students should have been issued a warning and granted a period of time to remedy their messy behaviors.

As newspaper readership continually decreases, it is even more important to encourage student news reading habits.

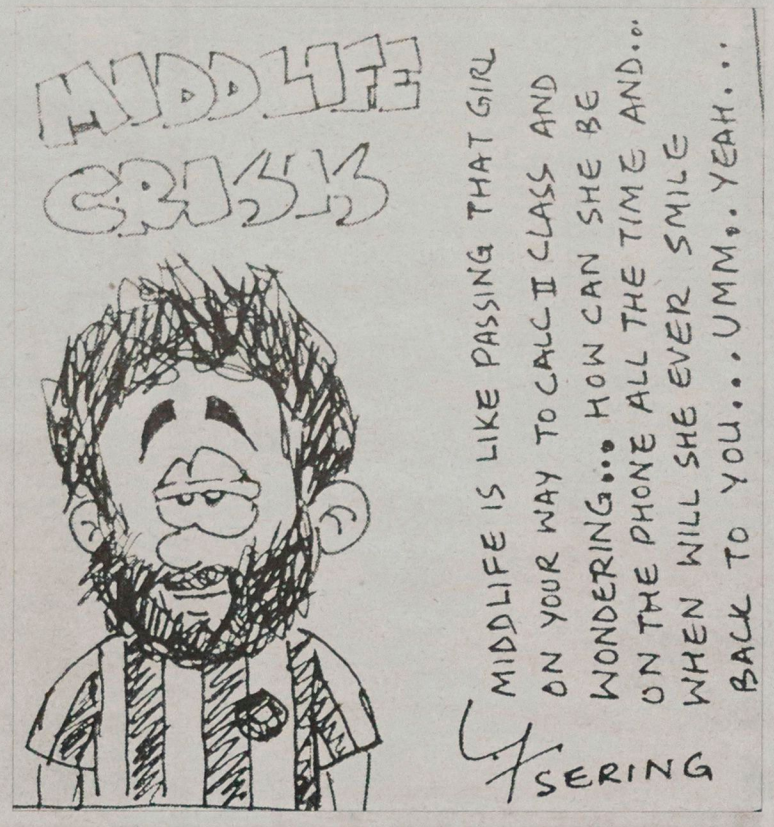
OPINIONS SUBMISSION POLICY

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

HEARD ON CAMPUS

I mean, I wish we could just have a beer fest and no one would get sent to Porter Hospital.

- President Leibowitz at last Sunday's SGA meeting while explaining other schools' strict prohibition of hard liquor but lenient enforcement of the prohibition of beer as compared to Middlebury's own policy.


MIDDLIFE IS LIKE PASSING THAT GIRL
ON YOUR WAY TO CALC II CLASS AND
WONDERING... HOW CAN SHE BE
ON THE PHONE ALL THE TIME AND...
WHEN WILL SHE EVER SMILE
BACK TO YOU... UMM. YEAH...
SERING

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

I write in response to Matt Kunzweiler's column in which he disparages hippie dancing, particularly at Pub Night. He finds this activity to be a "threatening manifestation of awkwardness." I am often one of the only people on the dance floor at Pub Night and yes, I joyously engage in hippie dancing. But just for the record, I have never worn a fanny-pack to Pub Night, as the author insinuated.

I ask Mr. Kunzweiler with his self-proclaimed "wingman" Carlo Rossi to consider four things. First, awkwardness is in. Second, if Pub Night is so "lame," why does Mr. Kunzweiler attend? His love of Carlo would indicate that he likes cheap goods. Is free beer *too* cheap for him? Third, should Mr. Kunzweiler grace the upcoming Pub Night with his presence, I would be happy to take some dancing lessons from him. Fourth, I ask that Mr. Kunzweiler look deep into his soul.

Could it be that his slanderous words are simply masking an insecurity concerning the fact that his chosen companion is an inanimate object that, though personified in the column, is incapable of dancing at all? I find the relationship between Mr. Kunzweiler and his beloved to be more troubling and more of a "deathblow of weirdness" than hippie dancing.

Please, Mr. Kunzweiler, show us the way on the dance floor next Pub Night. And best of luck with your upcoming book.

Sincerely,
Caitlin Littlefield '07.5
Andover, Mass.

To the Editor:

While wanting to save energy and be environmentally aware are commendable virtues on the part of the College, I feel that it is a bit premature. The College environmental do-gooders should make sure that all of the campus buildings — including the older dorms and academic houses — are correctly insulated and have heat efficient windows. I would have no problem lowering the heat in my residence, except for the fact that the house is old and there is such a big draft coming from the windows that I can feel strong gusts of wind outside, even when they are closed tightly. This is the more problematic waste of money and energy, I would say. We need to pay more attention to existing problems — however slight they may be — before setting even higher ideals.

Sincerely,
C. Elise Harris '06
Clinton, N.Y.

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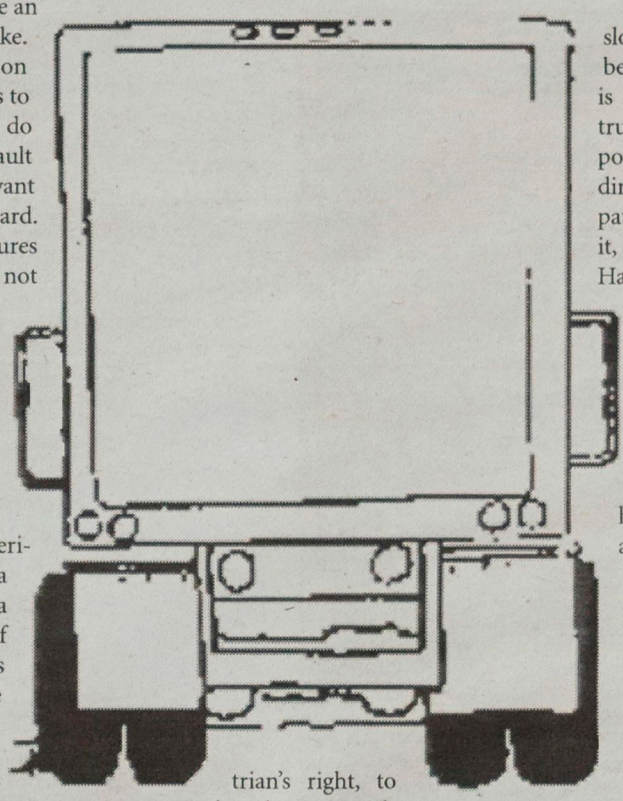
EMT eyewitness sings different tune

I could feel my blood pressure slowly rising as I read the latest report of Elizabeth DiCioccio's '06 accident in *The Middlebury Campus* ["Police complete investigation," Feb. 16].

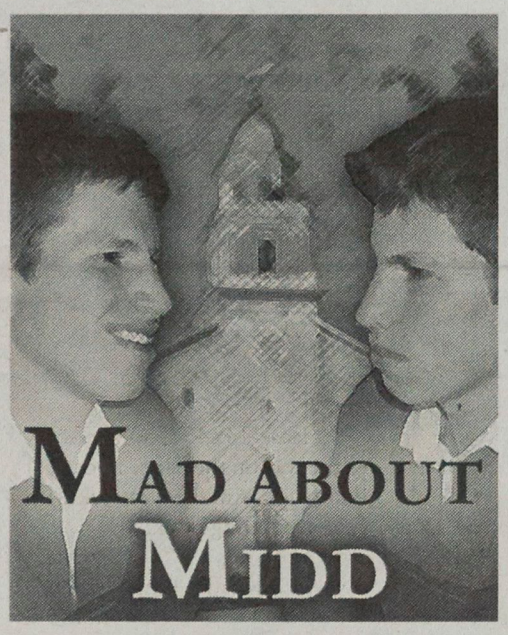
First, "injuries to the torso" does not do justice to the life-threatening injuries inflicted upon Liz. The head nurse of the emergency room, where Liz spent a night before ending up in the ICU for three days, told me that Liz's liver laceration was a four out of five, with five being "certain death." Her back is broken in at least four places, and at least two ribs are also broken. She punctured a lung and a kidney. In short, her body was crushed. I for one am not sure if the rib injuries were caused by the two tires of the Middlebury recycling truck running on top of her or by being struck by it as the vehicle was racing backwards. Judging by the article and the college's response (ignorance), I would think myself to be the only one who was worried about her. Fortunately Liz has many great friends who supported her.

Speaking of the Middlebury truck, I am extremely relieved to hear that the Middlebury Policy Department (MPD) report is consistent with the Public Safety record: the fact that the lights and alarm were operational makes me feel much safer. But it is difficult to see backup lights when you are walking away from a truck. The College, Public Safety and the MPD have made an even bigger mistake. They are all relying on the alarm and lights to dissipate blame. I do not want to place fault anywhere, but I want the facts to be heard. All of the safety features in the world would not have prevented this accident, because the driver was backing up too fast. Anyone who has walked around campus lately during the daytime has had this experience: whether it is a Gator, a pickup, or a recycling truck, all of the facilities vehicles are oblivious to the concept of a pedestrian campus and zip around the walkways. I have heard the same story of people being forced off sidewalks and near-misses from deans, teachers, students and staff, and they are all aware of this problem. Anyone driving on sidewalks should know that it is their privilege, whereas it is the pedestrian's right, to be there. Yet *The Campus* cites the fact that sidewalks are "frequently utilized" by drivers — who, if "Vermont Statute 23" did apply, would probably be out of a license — to imply that pedestrians need to be more aware on the walkways.



If the truck had been going slowly, this tragedy would have been avoided. Officer Ken Hawkins is quoted, the "visibility from the truck's mirrors would have been impossible," which is false. We walked directly perpendicular to the truck's path until turning to walk behind it, and in that period (walking from Hall A to Hall B), we must have passed across the side view mirror. Whether the driver was looking is another issue. The fact that we were not rushing anywhere, as Officer Hawkins is quoted as erroneously reporting, only means we would have been visible in the mirror for a longer period of time. Moreover, many Middlebury students do rush all over campus, and that hasn't justified any accidents yet. In fact, if I were driving a large, heavy, potentially dangerous truck on a college sidewalk, I would probably play it safe and expect people to be rushing.

RUSS JOHANSON '06
A PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY DOUBLE MAJOR
FROM NASHUA, N.H.



Strategic Plan not Feb friendly

By Dave Barker
OPINION COLUMNIST

I don't blame you if you missed the release of "Knowledge without Boundaries: The College's Strategic Plan." Reading macrotheory by flashlight would be more thrilling. A revised draft of the Plan, which sets out a roadmap for the future of the College, was presented to the Board of Trustees on Feb. 10 by the Planning Steering Committee.

On that same day, 110 February admits were in the middle of orientation. Perhaps the Steering Committee and the Board should have dined and cooked a s'more with the new Febs, as one of the Plan's recommendations calls for a gradual reduction and move towards a voluntary February admissions program. Trimming the size of the Feb class would erode Middlebury's uniqueness.

The idea of a smaller Feb class floated around campus offices long before strategic planning began. "The number of students in the program has gotten larger than was ever envisioned," Dean of Planning John Emerson said. Academic and social hurdles combined with the trend towards fall semester or full year study abroad motivated the Steering Committee's recommendation. "It's my impression that the theory behind this recommendation is an acknowledgement of the various points in which the Feb experience at Middlebury is different than the September experience, and in some ways, more difficult," Karen Guttentag, associate dean of student affairs and the organizer of February orientation said.

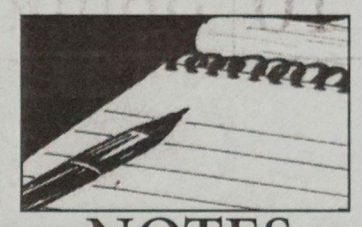
Indeed, the Feb experience is different, even a little quirky, and that's what makes it so valuable. Other schools accept a small number of students at mid-year. These groups are awkwardly assimilated into the student body and have little collective identity. With classes of 100 or more, a distinct community forms. Just look for the students these days who walk in packs and smile in subzero temperatures.

Reducing the size of the Feb class might retain a few students who would otherwise end up at a school like Williams to be able to start in September, but why drop a program to be more like other schools? "It is great that we are trying to be as competitive as we can with our peer institutions, but I don't want to see the *U.S. News and World Report* rankings taking priority over our individuality," SGA President and junior Feb Eli Berman said.

The adequate "critical mass" that the planning Committee hopes to achieve after gradual reductions could be 90, 75 or 60 students, according to Emerson. "One advantage of moving gradually to a smaller group whose needs we can better serve is that we can evaluate the effects of changes as we go along," he said. A Feb class with 60 students offers far fewer opportunities for bonding than this year's class of 110 students.

The admissions office's proposal of a voluntary program would attract students who know ahead of time that they want the time off. I wonder, though, if students even consider the Feb program when they apply in December. Come late spring, burnt-out high school students are more inclined to start eight months late.

Real world experiences gained during these eight months lead to a greater diversity of in-class discussions. Febs are also eager to dive into campus life after time off. I can think of at least one project that could use the fresh enthusiasm of the class of 2009.5: The revised draft of the Strategic Plan.



NOTES
FROM THE DESK

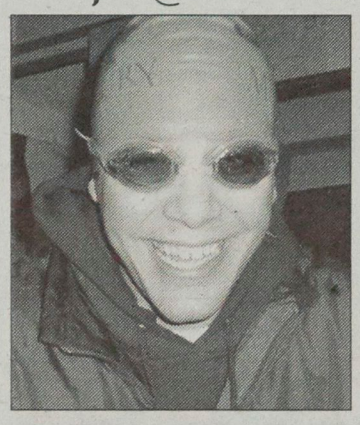
Last night I spoke to a friend of mine and he mentioned that his school has a "President for a day" program, where one student is able to be just that. This got me thinking about what I would do if I had that power. Now of course you're probably thinking that I'd reform the alcohol policy or eliminate classes at 8 a.m. and on Fridays. Quite honestly though, neither of these options were the first thing to pop into my mind. No, I would reform the senior work policies.

I should probably start my discussion with a disclaimer: I am currently writing a thesis, and it was my choice, as neither of my majors requires senior work beyond a seminar. However, I believe that the challenges and the benefits presented by senior work are such that every student should be required to do something, whether for a semester or an entire year. Even beyond academic self-discipline — which J-Term proved I still lack even after four years at Middlebury — my thesis has allowed me to both combine knowledge from courses I've taken throughout the years and explore one small facet of my discipline in greater depth than I would otherwise be able to.

Requiring every student to do senior work would necessitate some changes in the structure of senior work programs, which should have been made long ago. Departments should help their students by setting strict guidelines for deadlines and for year-long theses the deadlines for first pages should come mid-semester at the latest in order to allow students to take full advantage of their year. Otherwise, students end up with a page requirement equal to a yearlong thesis but with only about a semester to write the paper. I for one have found myself in the past few days realizing with a mix of fear and some strange, crazed giddiness that my thesis, which is barely more than half written, is due in seven weeks. On that note, back to work...

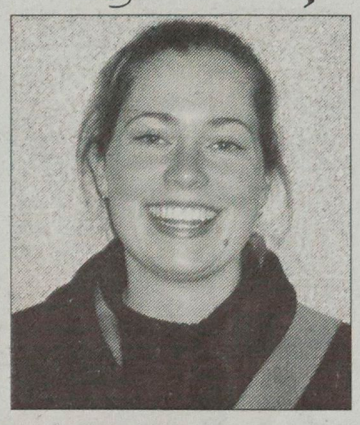
- KATHERINE DOORLEY
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

The Middlebury Campus online poll



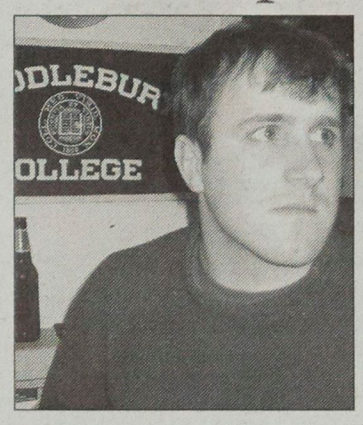
YEAH, DIDN'T THE WOMEN'S SWIM TEAM BEAT THEM IN BEIRUT?

—NICK CAMPOFRANCO '06.5
NEW CANAAN, CONN.



I THINK IT'S A LITTLE EXTREME, ESPECIALLY FOR THE SENIORS.

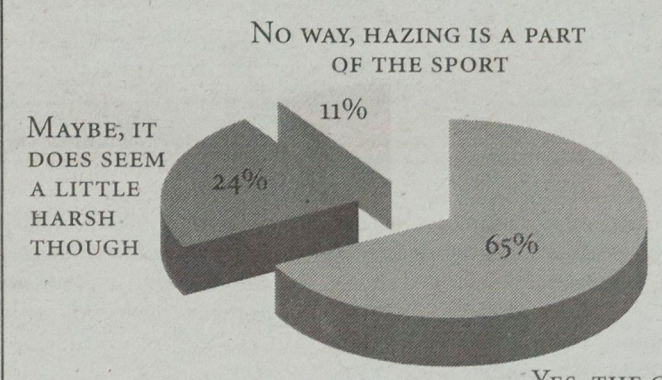
—JENN CHRISTIAN '07
NASHVILLE, TENN.



YES, I HEARD THEY WERE DRINKING BUSCH LIGHT.

—WILLIAM ELLIOTT HUNTER '06
IVY, VA.

WAS THE MEN'S SWIM TEAM'S PUNISHMENT WARRANTED?


NO WAY, HAZING IS A PART OF THE SPORT
11%
MAYBE, IT DOES SEEM A LITTLE HARSH THOUGH
24%
65%
YES, THE COACH IS SIMPLY SHOWING SOME TOUGH LOVE

Results based on 54 responses collected between Feb. 17 and Feb. 21 at www.middleburycampus.com

NEXT WEEK'S POLL QUESTION: DO YOU THINK RACIAL TENIONS STILL EXIST AT MIDDLEBURY?

"Flying Man"
Jonathan Borofsky

Hanging high overhead in the Center for the Arts (CFA), "I Dreamed I Could Fly at 3,876,225," or "Flying Man," defies gravity, staring at the passersby below. This piece by world-renowned sculptor Jonathan Borofsky is one of only six of its kind in the world. The piece was once placed in Berlin to appear as though it were flying over the city's famous wall. Other pieces in the series have different colored shirts, and all are loosely self-portraits. Its unusual title owes itself to the artist's predilection for large numbers.

The piece was purchased with funds from the Overbrook Foundation, a group that also endowed the College's contemporary art gallery. It was the first piece purchased by the College after the creation of the Committee for Art in Public Places. The piece is easy to miss, but once seen, easily lends itself to any number of interpretations, ranging from an ominous plunge to the death to Freudian eroticism to liberating dreams. —J.F.S.

"Forest Mural"
Kevin Buckland '05.5 & Brett Foreman '07

Public art created by students is a relatively recent concept on the Middlebury campus that has been initiated in the last three years. The student-run organization Vitality of the Artistic Community. Association (VACA) under the leadership of resident muralist Kevin Buckland '05.5 began painting the walls of Forest Basement several years ago. The current mural in Forest was painted this year byBuckland and Brett Foreman '07. This is the third time the walls have been repainted. The first time was by Raqual Deanda and Buckland and the second by Emilie Trice and Anjelika Parannipe '05. As Buckland said, every year "the mural gets bolder."

The mural is indeed bold — orange, red and blue shapes and lines that liven up the otherwise dreary basement lounge of the building. VACA holds art shows, concerts and meetings in the basement lounge and the walls reflect the creative people who meet within them. On one side of the lounge a group of brightly painted figures stare out at the viewer. On another side, a geometric pattern creates a lively, colorful scene of movement and form. The walls are far from their original white, and Buckland couldn't be happier. "We learn nothing from white walls, and we are here to learn," he said. —L.S.

With the recent completion of the student mural in Battell Hall South and the upcoming purchase for the D.E. Axinn '51 Center for Literary and Cultural Studies, public art is garnering more attention nowadays. Though many ridicule "King Kong" or "Smog," Middlebury College is actually an important repository of public art in the Northeast and one of the most progressive colleges and universities in its attitude toward art's place on the campus.

There are two main bodies responsible for the proliferation of public art. The first and most important is the Committee for Art in Public Places (CAPP), headed by Director of the College Museum Richard Saunders. The CAPP is involved in every display of public art, provided it will be in place for at least three months.

The CAPP dates back to 1994, when the Board of Trustees decided to institute a "One Percent for Art" policy similar to those found in cities around the nation, in which one percent of funds for any new building on campus is designated for aesthetic enhancement. According to Chief Curator of the College Museum Emmie Donadio, "The CAPP sees [public art] as a resource and attraction to the campus," and thus selects pieces that it believes can be successfully integrated into the campus.

The other, younger force is Vitality of the Arts Community Association (VACA). Responsible for the newer murals on campus, the group hopes to inject more color to the nondescript walls of residence halls. Kevin Buckland '05.5, former co-president

"Excentric, Variation VI"
George Rickey

Windy days are an excellent time to stand spellbound outside of Johnson and watch "Two Open Rectangles, Excentric, Variation VI" blowing in the wind. Will the two rectangles collide? Will they interpenetrate? Will the entire sculpture be thrown to the ground by a strong gust of wind? The answer is that the rectangles cannot collide or penetrate each other and this is why the piece is so intriguing. It seems to defy itself.

American artist George Rickey was a pioneer in the field of kinetic sculpture. Kinetic sculptures do not use any mechanical devices to create movement. Instead, they rely on air currents, which add to the excitement of the piece since they are forever changing.

Rickey's work is often larger than the 12 by three feet piece on the Middlebury campus. The original piece commisioned by the College was acually smaller, but it was stolen one summer after Language Schools, according to Professor of Art History Glenn Andres. The new piece was designed to be significantly larger to be more secure and more like Rickey's other work. —L.S.

of VACA, does not think that Middlebury is doing enough to banish the white walls that pervade the dorms, dining halls and social spaces. "The 'One Percent for Art' program is great, but timid...It's great to spend money on art, but why won't the College buy more pieces from less famous artists?" Buckland asked. He exhorted the College to "be brave. Do not go with 'safe' art. We need brave art."

However, nearly two decades ago, the College did just that, with disastrous results. The work was "Way Station," profiled at the right. It was the culmination of a J-Term course on public art taught by Visiting Professor Vito Acconci. As part of the agreement bringing Acconci to campus with the endowed Christian A. Johnson '84 Memorial Fund, the artist would need to create a work for Middlebury.

It was intended as an escape, a refuge or a place of private reflection. However, some opposed its message, and one night, it was torched. The College recognized the need to introduce new works of art to the community, and prepared a symposium for the impending installation of Dan Graham's "Two-Way Mirror Curved Hedge Zig-Zag Labyrinth."

With involvement from official College committees and independent student initiatives, public art will continue to be a thriving, if at times controversial, part of the campus.

—Jason F. Siegel & Lauren Smith
Focus Editor & Staff Writer

"Frisbee Dog"

Patrick Villiers Farrow

The "Frisbee Dog" sculpture outside of Munroe Hall has been subjected to various jokes, hazing rituals and even a few illegally chained bicycles over the years. Its placement on campus seems odd and a second look is almost obligatory, as one wonders how that dog's back legs and neck can be *that* long.

Indeed, the bronze sculpture by American artist Patrick Villiers Farrow that appeared on campus in 1989 is a bit quirky, as is the tale behind the game's conception. The game of Frisbee began in ancient Greece during the very first Olympics, but according to five Middlebury alumni from the class of 1939, they were the first to invent the modern version of the game when they began to toss discarded pie tins from the Frisbie Pie Company one sunny day. Webster's New World Dictionary, however, lists Princeton students as the game's founders.

Whatever the story, the "Frisbee Dog" provides endless amusement to passersby and reflects Middlebury students' enthusiasm for our "ultimate" version of the game. —L.S.

"Way Station"

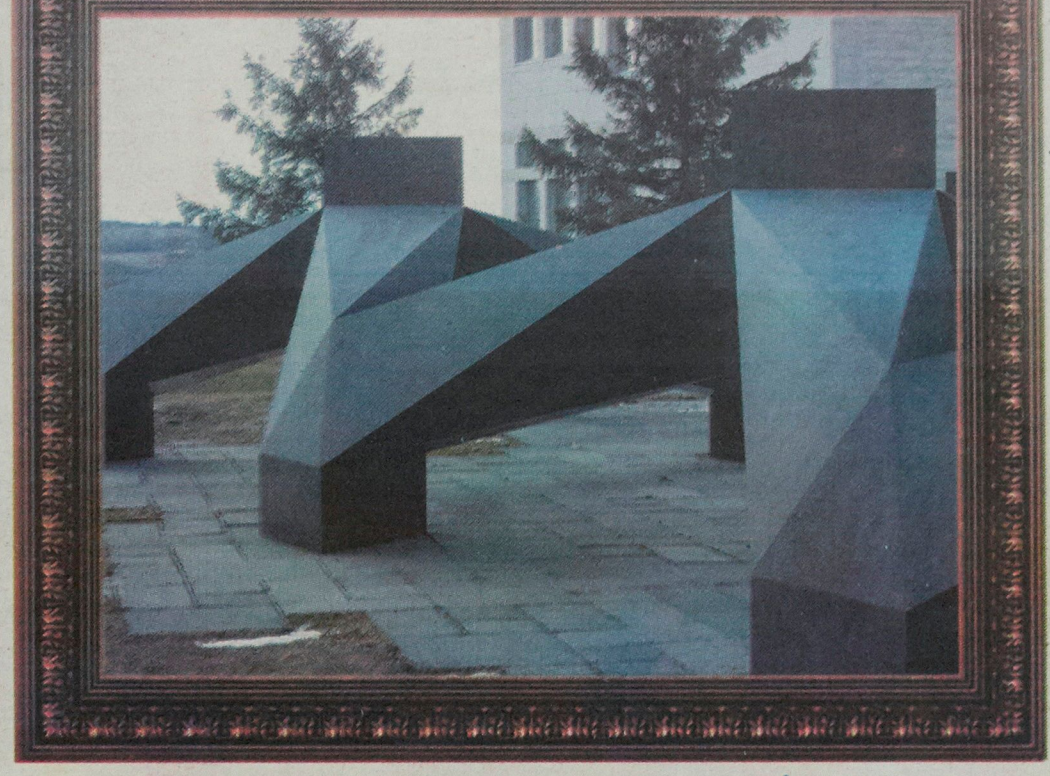
Vito Acconci

"Way Station" was a highly controversial piece of public art created in the 1980s for the sidewalk between Pearsons Hall and Freeman International Center. Through a program designed to bring artists and original works to the campus—profiled above— artist Vito Acconci created the piece exclusively for Middlebury College. The College had had success with other renowned artists such as Isaac Witkin, but it was not prepared for the strong feelings that this piece generated.

The piece was a closed-off metal chamber with playing cards painted on the outside and the words "GOD," "EAT" and "DOG" on the inside. After it was torched, the College decided to preserve its remnants, which are now in the permanent collection of the College Museum, and may someday be restored. —J.F.S.

"Smog"

Tony Smith



American artist Tony Smith was not alive to see one of the more complex sculptures he conceptualized in the 1960s created in 2000 for the first time, on the Middlebury campus. However, it is likely Smith would have deemed the location — outside of the building that houses Midd's science departments — quite appropriate. Smith was trained as an architect and the controlled, geometric forms of the field fuel his work.

The painted aluminum sculpture outside of John M. McCardell, Jr. Bicentennial Hall entitled "Smog" seems strangely out of place in rural Vermont. The piece is a first-rate example of the 1960s Minimalist movement, which emphasized a paring down of visual art. In Smith's work, "smog," a word that connotes a smokiness and levity, has been transformed into something heavy, geometric and symmetrical. One should not look too deep into the piece and its title. The Minimalist movement centered on the notion that a work of art signifies nothing other than itself. It simply exists. —L.S.

Treasures

Photos by
Marie Horbar

features

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SILENT AID FOR A HUNGRY NATION
FIRST-YEAR STUDENT ORGANIZES CHARITY AUCTION

15
EATIN' GOOD IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD
'EAT GOOD FOOD' OPENS IN MIDDLEBURY

Auction to aid hungering nation

By Mike Murali
Staff Writer

On Saturday, March 4, a silent auction will take place in the Grand Salon of Le Chateau to raise money for charities responding to food shortages in the African nation of Malawi. Items will be donated by local Vermont businesses and artists, and all proceeds will benefit the World Food Program's (WFP) efforts in the impoverished nation.

The initiative for a silent auction was started when Leah Bevis '09, whose high school frequently fundraised through auctions, thought that the idea of an auction was "feasible and would work." In addition to local Vermont businesses, donations will come from faculty and students at Middlebury. Items for auction include $15 to $50 gift certificates for local businesses, pancake mixes and maple syrup, sweatshirts, an African music CD collection, sculptures, paintings and hand-crafted jewelry. Cook Commons will concurrently sponsor an optional donation coffee shop and provide a guest speaker, Ndesanjo Marcha.

Bevis described Marcha as a "Tanzanian guy. He's a journalist, activist, blogger...and I wanted a speaker as a draw for people in the community to add a more interesting element to the silent auction. I wanted to get a journalist because we had a whole bunch of African-related speakers at the Robert A. Jones house, but we never had a journalist."

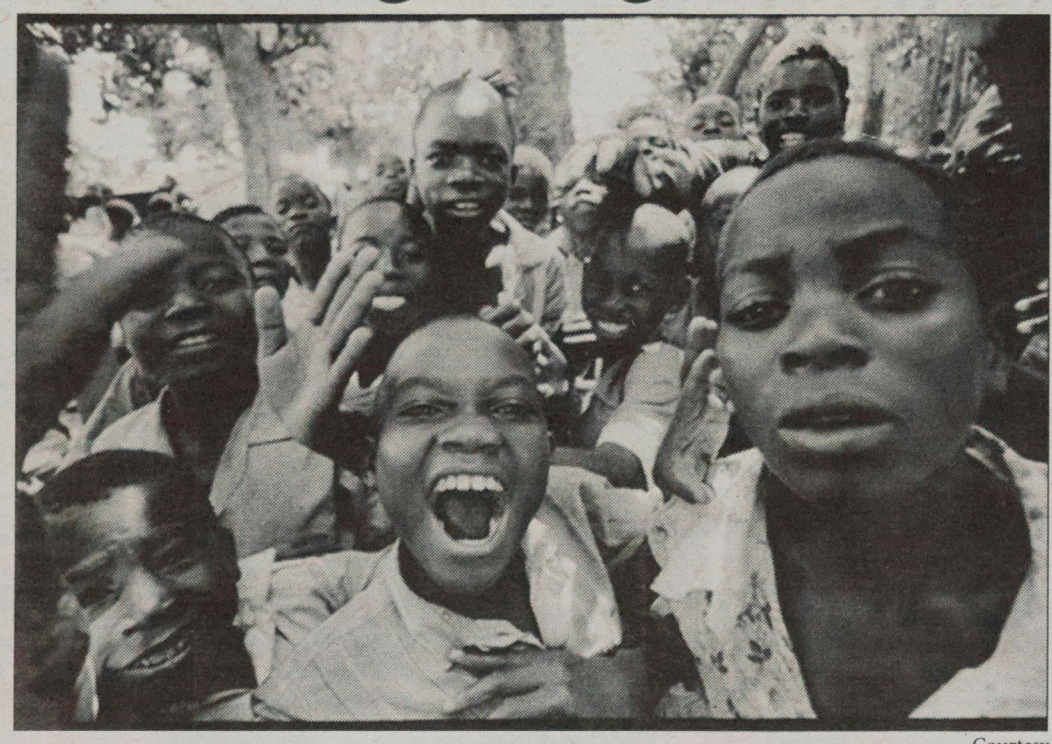
After sending out an e-mail to various websites connecting African journalists, Bevis obtained the information for Marcha and invited him to speak at Middlebury. "He writes about foreign aid, he writes about Africa, and he's really into the use of technology," said Bevis. "If you send people into Africa who have a laptop and are able to blog, they have a communication that can reach the rest of the world."

Bevis said her interest in the issues facing African nations began when she was a young child and has increased with firsthand experience. Last year, during a trip to Malawi, she saw the effects of malnutrition and poverty. That spring there was a drought in southern Africa that affected several nations, including Zimbabwe and Zambia. Any crops grown were consumed almost immediately, with the market values being too high for the average citizen to afford food. The problem grew worse this winter when the region experienced heavy rains, which flooded crops and displaced many people, further worsening the problem. The WFP says that "flash flooding in southern Malawi in the last week of December displaced or made homeless more than 40,000 people, damaged roads and bridges, and washed away newly planted crops."

Bevis said the WFP will be responsible for putting the money raised from the auction to proper use. "I talked to the people I knew in Malawi, the people I was volunteering with last year, and they said that it was the most effective organization," said Bevis.

According to the organization's website, few Malawians eat more than one meal per day, and children comprise an increasing bulk of sufferers. HIV/AIDS is a large problem as well, with 14.2 percent of the adults in Malawi afflicted, causing 84,000 deaths related to the disease in 2003.

Bevis said that ineffective government has stood in the way of a proper response to the crisis, making outside funding, such as that which will come from her silent auction all the more important. "People think the government might have reacted faster and better if they hadn't been bickering," said Bevis.



Courtesy

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

VAGINA MONOLOUGES	PENIS DIALOGUES
Always funny, always poignant, always a good Valentine's Day alternative at Midd.	Just imagine for a minute how those would go... "Hi, I'm a penis."
THE XX OLYMPICS	THE GERMANS
Wow! Somewhere in the world has enough snow to ski on!!	We're just bitter because they're winning. Stupid sauerkraut.
EAT GOOD FOOD	NEIL AND OTTO'S PIZZA
The caveman-like name says everything that a restaurant should be. Good. Food. Eat.	Closing at 10 p.m. because of lack of business? But your pizza is so good...

World Briefs

—By Derek Schlickeisen

Catholics v. South Park Cartoon protests

Leaders of the Catholic Church in New Zealand are urging a boycott of broadcaster C4 after the station announced it would air a controversial episode of "South Park." The installment, "Bloody Mary," shows a statue to the Virgin Mary covered in blood. "Press freedom is not a license to incite intolerance or promote hatred or derision based on religion," said New Zealand's bishops in a letter to the country's half-million Catholics. A spokesman for C4 said that if Catholics were offended by the episode — which also created controversy when it was aired in the U.S. — they simply should not watch.

—BBC News, London

Following weeks of often-violent demonstrations against Danish caricatures of the Prophet Mohammad, Prime Minister Anders Rasmussen said Tuesday that he believed the worst was over. Media outlets in Denmark first published the cartoons that sparked mass outrage from Muslims in Europe and the Middle East, leading angry mobs to torch Danish embassies in Syria and Lebanon. On Monday, several hundred students assembled in the Afghan capitol of Kabul and chanted threats to join al-Qaeda. Rasmussen said Tuesday that he hoped for "more subdued demonstrations and statements in large parts of the Muslim world."

—Reuters, Copenhagen

Mass poultricide

In an effort to stop the spread of a deadly new strain of avian flue, officials in the Indian province of Maharashtra expanded the "dead zone" for all chickens and other birds this week to almost 400 square miles. Although only eight victims have checked into local hospitals with symptoms of bird flu, the Indian government plans to cull over 300,000 animals and shut down local poultry farms for three months. The eight join 162 others in 21 countries who have been infected with the deadly H5N1 strain.

—CNN, New Delhi

Abramoff Int'l

Former Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad revealed Tuesday that Republican lobbyist Jack Abramoff received $1.2 million from unidentified sources to set up a meeting between him and President George W. Bush. Mohamad said he sought the meeting after the conservative Heritage Foundation convinced him he might be able to influence U.S. policy regarding the Southeast Asian nation. The *Los Angeles Times* reported last week that the $1.2 million came directly from the Malaysian government, but Mohamad refuted this claim.

—AP, Kuala Lumpur

Gourmet eatery offers food flair

Panini branch expands to include restaurant and bar

By Dina Magaril
Features Editor

Fans of the Vergennes branch of the delicious panini eatery Eat Good Food, which opened in 2001, will be excited to note the newest addition to downtown Middlebury — the opening of a new Eat Good Food venue that will function as a grill, bar and deli. Though the space is still being renovated, Tara Vaugh-Hughes, the owner of both Eat Good Food branches, is excited for the chance to enter the Middlebury scene.

Vaughn-Hughes, who grew up in Middlebury and attended Middlebury Union High school as a teenager — she was elected prom queen — hopes that the opening of EGF will provide the town with an exciting option of good, Mediterranean-style comfort food. "It's good food with a cosmopolitan flair," said Vaughn, who added that she hopes the eatery will "infuse downtown [Middlebury] with a new life." Vaughn hopes the restaurant will bring both Middlebury students and Middlebury town residents in to enjoy its offerings.

Eat Good Food opened to the public on Thursday, Feb. 16, and is currently open for dinner reservations. In the coming weeks Vaughn-Hughes is working on having the café open for lunch, where she will serve up a menu of paninis and soups, which are found in the Vergennes branch of the store. Along with the lunch paninis EGF will have a Deli case of gourmet foods, which will be available to take home or to eat in the lunch area of the store. Vaughn said the finished interior will be very colorful and she hopes to eventually have artwork to put on the walls.

Vaughn's motto for the restaurant is its message of bringing simple, good food to its patrons. "I don't believe you should only eat good food on a special occasion," she said, and she hopes that each meal tasted at her restaurant will perpetuate the idea of "food as a life-affirming pleasure," citing olive oil, lemon and capers as some the best ingredients for achieving this goal.

The enjoyment of a meal at EGF can be most fully realized when accompanied by one of the old-world wines that EGF lists on its menu. "Our wines are very reasonably priced," said Vaughn-Hughes, "and they really complement the flavor of the meal. Eat Good Food's array of inexpensive wines by the glass — especially the many enjoyable Proseccos — can be sampled with each meal. Vaughn said that offering so many wines by the glass allows people to "buy and try" without the commitment of a bottle, so that the wine is always circulating.

A warning to all tomato lovers: don't expect to see tomatoes until late May or early June. Only fresh ingredients grace the EGF menu, according to Vaughn-Hughes. "We really believe in using the best ingredients," she said, "and I wouldn't want to ruin a delicious sandwich by using an unripe tomato."

The restaurant is also a big supporter of Vermont's local farmers, citing Dakin Farm and Misty Knoll Farm as two of the many local farms from which it buys its ingredients. Everything from cheeses to turkey — which is not a current dish on the menu — to vegetables are bought from local farms. To keep things interesting, Vaughn says that the menu will change slightly from month to month so customers can continue to enjoy new flavors throughout the season. To get a sample from the menu, here are just a few of the foods one might find: grilled octopus with wheat berry and salsa verde, fava bean ravioli, pan fried skate and apple crostata or lavendar crème brulee for dessert. The parsnip and shittake mushroom salad with chicory, crispy pancetta and sage vinaigrette is another popular favorite. So if you're craving a small snack or a full course meal and good wine, stop by Eat Good Food and chat with Tara Vaughn-Hughes, who is often seen mingling with the customers. The restaurant is currently open for dinner starting at 5 p.m.

Albert Bitici

Tara Vaughn-Hughes, here in the newest branch of Eat Good Food, hopes her customers will enjoy simple, tasty food and a glass of wine.

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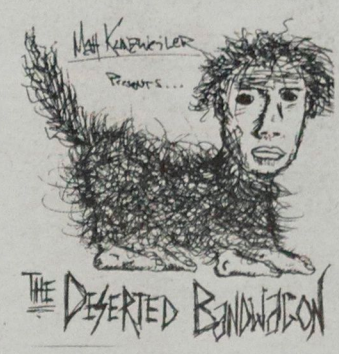

BY MATT KUNZWEILER

So I finally moved off campus and into an apartment in town. I did it for one reason: to escape the wrath of BannerWeb, which is a threat to Liberty and our very way of life.

Anyone who's watched a sci-fi movie (not that I'm "into the genre" — don't judge me) knows that in the future, the computers will go apes and enslave humanity. Today, BannerWeb already has such potential. Imagine what this big brother program could do if it developed a mind of its own, its own sick morality and totalitarian bloodlust: If your grades fall, BannerWeb will turn off your heat; if you don't pay a parking ticket, BannerWeb will deactivate your access card and leave you hypothermic and clawing at your dorm entrance; if BannerWeb doesn't think you're taking enough PE classes, it will disable the elevator in your dorm so you must burn calories trudging up the stairs; if BannerWeb notices you viewing online porn, it will notify your parents via email; if BannerWeb, while routinely tapping your phone line, overhears mention of alcohol, it will notify its favorite henchman, the new liquor inspector; if BannerWeb does not approve of your iTunes playlist, it will replace it with the complete works of Kraftwerk (the most logical and soulless group of the 70s techno-pop movement); and if you are ever audacious enough to curse BannerWeb during a brutally slow and frustrating round of class registration, it will automatically transfer you to McHarvard Community College Online.

I assure you, BannerWeb is capable of all these things. It has a very strange sense of justice/humor.

So, when I moved off campus and checked my BannerWeb account, I discovered to my delight that I had moved one step further from its ever-extending grasp. Under "Spring Housing Information," downtrodden BannerWeb reported: "Sorry, Housing Information Not Available for the Current Term" (and curiously capitalized like a song title…).

Now BannerWeb doesn't know where I live and it no longer controls my electricity, water and computer. This means that when the Revolution comes, I may be spared — though when BannerWeb reads this in the online edition of The Campus, it might begin plotting against me. It still has my social security number.

Or perhaps I'm losing my grip on reality, since this is the second consecutive week I've devoted an entire column to personifying an inanimate entity. (Last week my column was considerably more lighthearted, as I recounted the rollicking joviality of my good pal, Carlo Rossi, whom, by the way, I recently witnessed in the local grocery store soliciting himself to a beverage-perusing deer-eyed student. "Hey, you," Carlo shouted from the shelf, "the two of us are the perfect match. You got little hands, I got a little handle. Is it destiny?" That's classic Carlo for you. Classic Carlo.)

Carlo jokes, but BannerWeb lusts for disaster.

In the unlikely event that I haven't lost my grip on reality, take this one piece of advice: if you live on campus, don't play online chess. By playing online chess, you allow BannerWeb to watch, to analyze your moves, to study how you think, to find the holes in your logic, to learn everything about you so he can crush you when the Revolution comes. Accept it and cut your losses.

Who else remembers the good old days of registering with MARS?

arts

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MATCH POINT
TAKING A LOOK AT NEW THE WOODY ALLEN FLICK

19
SOUND INVESTMENT
JAZZ ENTHUSIASTS START UP JAZZ BAND

'The Vagina Monologues' returns

Female conversations give everyone something to talk about

By Joyce Man
Arts Editor

Vlad Lodoaba

Stephanie Strohm's '08 character frets and hyperventilates as the woman encountering someone who just "liked to look" as Meg Young '07 and Meghan Nesmith '06 join in the stress and laughter of her experience.

If one were to single something out about this year's production of "The Vagina Monologues," it would be the performance's attempt to leave no one singled out. This, after all, is the quintessential play about discovering the female self through community sharing.

The formula is simple but the result is always impressive, if done right. The actors get up on stage and talk about the trials of tampons, the embarassment of sex, the devastation of rape, while the audience laughs, ponders and cries in its seat, and voila!, a connection is made. Judging from the choruses of laughter and unified silences in McCullough Social Space last Saturday evening, there was a plenty of voila! and there was definitely a connection.

Yet, tackling the "V-Mons" should be difficult for the very same reason that it should be easy. The script is so striking and controversial that it imports a formidable impression on its audience. Written by Eve Ensler '75, it is an Obie Award-winning collection of monologues that is performed world-over, over and over. So, the most humorous parts — the "Cunt" scene, for example, and that memorable triple-orgasm moan could easily be replayed with fresh enthusiasm or fall flat from over-kill.

Directors Retta Leaphart '06 and Meghan Nesmith '06, both four -year veterans of "The Vagina Monologues," met this challenge.

The best part about the "Monologues" is the fact that there is absolutely nothing "mono," nothing deserted nor singular, about the orators. The script's driving force is its applicability to all women. The characters, whether they be a sexually-repressed grandmother (played convincingly by talented first-year Judith Dry), or a woman raped in war, are capable of pulling on the heartstrings of all women. In the world of vaginas, so to speak, no female is an island, and the two directors seized upon this idea.

The best decision they made was to have all their actors stand onstage throughout the performance to reflect the emotions of each principle orator. In addition to providing for smoother transitions from monologue to monologue, this tactic allowed for their collective energy to show. "We wanted to create a company of women," said Leaphart. "Every year, we feel that the group bonds in rehearsals, but there is little opportunity to showcase our community on stage. By keeping the women onstage [throughout], we... created an atmosphere of supportive energy."

Indeed, with a stage full of women clad in reds, purples and blacks, who laughed and sympathized expressively in tandem, the unity would have been hard to miss. And just in case someone did miss it, there is no substitute for an army of panting and moaning women in the throes of orgasm, three of them in unison, to slap the feeling of shared experience in your face.

Beyond having their actors collectively complaining about that strange curiosity known as the tampon or openly discussing that great questions "What does your vagina smell like?" Leaphart and Nesmith attempted to interject freshness into the "V-Mons." In a video feed at the introduction, female students from around campus told tales about women who inspired them, ordinary women of extraordinary feats who were deemed "vagina warriors."

But what of the other side of the award-winning play? If "The Vagina Monologues" is known for its championing of the female voice, it has equally raised controversy. One particular scene, "The Little Coochie Snorcher that Could," is a 14-year-old girl's tale of an empowering sexual experience with an older woman. In 2000, one columnist from the highly-conservative newspaper at Georgetown University, *The Hoya*, responded by jumping on the contradiction between the play, which attempts to battle female rape, and the scene, which seems to legitimize the sexual seduction of an underaged girl by a woman as "good rape." The columnist, Robert Swope, was subsequently fired before the column was even published.

While there has not been such a response on our campus, when conversing with Leaphart and Nesmith, it becomes obvious that they gave Sharp's criticism thought. For any director, there is the dilemma between remaining faithful to the script and responding to its problems. In this case, they chose to follow Ensler, more or less word for word, and with good justification. "Ensler has very prescriptive rules for the production of the show. There is virtually no flexibility in terms of which monologues to perform," said Nesmith. "My personal feeling about this piece is the overall experience by the woman in the monologue is extremely positive. [The experience] is not about the older woman obtaining sexual pleasure, but rather about empowering the younger woman to find her own sexuality and to understand and appreciate her body."

Beyond minor criticisms that this year's production was less engaging than previous ones, most of the audience, men and women alike, applauded the cast for their strong performance. Kerri Duquette-Hoffman, a representative of WomenSafe, a group working to help victims of rape and to prevent violence against females, was moved by Katie Peters '06 and Dylan Graetz's '08 performance of the scene, "My Vagina Was My Village," despite having seen it many times. "[That piece] always makes me cry. They did a good job of performing it, given it's very heavy and somber, and it's placed in the middle of a play that is mostly very up-beat."

Finally, the "VMons" came full circle by giving the audience a chance to get involved. All the profits, a predicted $3,000, will be donated directly to WomenSafe.

Ten-year log of the monologues

"I haven't been down there since 1953," says the elderly woman in one of the play's scenes, "No, it had nothing to do with Eisenhower." If in 1996, the use of the word "vagina" was very uncommon, today the entire topic of "down there" remains relatively unexplored in public conversation. Eve Ensler's play has tried to change that. In the 10 years since "The Vagina Monologues" was first written, Ensler's work has been met with great support, but also overwhelming criticism.

1975 Eve Ensler graduates from Middlebury College after finishing a thesis on suicide and contemporary poetry.
1996 Enlser writes "The Vagina Monologues," a play consisting of a series of monologues and based on interview conversations with 200 women. It is performed SoHo's Cornelia Street Café in New York City. The script wins an Obie Award for the category of Best New Play despite being met with heavy criticism.
1998 Ensler founds the organization V-Day, a grassroots movement to end violence, specifically against women, and proclaims Valentine's Day as V-Day until violence finally stops.
2000 Robert Swope, a columnist and sophomore at Georgetown University, writes a highly critical article for the conservative university newspaper, *The Hoya*. Swope, who described the scene "The Little Coochie Snorcher that Could" as a legitimization of "good rape" of an underaged girl by an older woman, is subsequently fired from the paper and his column is never published.
2001 Melissa Etheridge and Whoopi Coldberg perform segments of "The Vagina Monologues" in Madison Square Garden.
2002 V-Day's fundraising performance of the "Vagina Monologues" features celebrities, including Jane Fonda, Cynthia Nixon, Glenn Close and Isabella Rossellini. HBO releases a documentary on "The Vagina Monologues" under the same title. In February, Kuala Lumpur's City Hall shuts down a production of the play under heavy criticism from the Muslim community.
2003 Middlebury College awards Ensler an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree.
2004 Ensler performs "The Vagina Monologues" with celebrities, including Rosario Dawson and Selma Hayek.
2005 Uganda bands "The Vagina Monologues" and threatens to arrest the sponsors, who included the Ford Foundation, Action Aid International Uganda and the African Women's Development Fund. The national cabinet and high ministers begin debating the play's production in Uganda.

Band makes sound investment

By Melissa Marshall
Staff Writer

Middlebury College is a community renowned for its diversity and commitment to promoting the student body's involvement in many different endeavors and activities, so it was somewhat shocking to discover that it has no formal jazz ensemble.

"When I came to Middlebury here as a first-year in the fall of 2004, I must admit I was kind of surprised that the campus had no formal jazz ensemble. I just assumed that a college of Middlebury's caliber would naturally have a student jazz band as an integral part of the music scene. When that turned out not to be the case, I joined the student ensemble, Sound Investment, and became president the next year," said Derek Long '08, who, besides being president of Sound Investment, is also a talented tenor saxophonist.

Noticing this less-than-impressive state of student jazz on campus, Long and fellow musician, Tristan Axelrod '08, teamed up with Dick Forman, a jazz piano and voice teacher, who became their director. Together, they pushed for the shaky student ensemble to become an official component of the Middlebury music department.

"I just love this genre of music. When I got to Middlebury and saw that jazz wasn't as popular here as it had been at my high school, I decided I had to change that somehow. Once I had gained some clout as president of Sound Investment, I went to Peter Hamlin [Chair of the Music Department] last fall to discuss the possibility of making the band an integrated music department ensemble. He agreed and the seed was more or less planted," said Long.

Before Sound Investment, whose history is tumultuous at best, the only other option for jazz players besides sporadic shows at The Grille or gigs to play background music at parties were the weekly jazz workshops led by Forman. "The workshops, in my opinion, were instrumental in keeping interest in jazz alive at Middlebury; basically, they amounted to a weekly jam session loosely structured around lessons in jazz and improvisation theory," said Long.

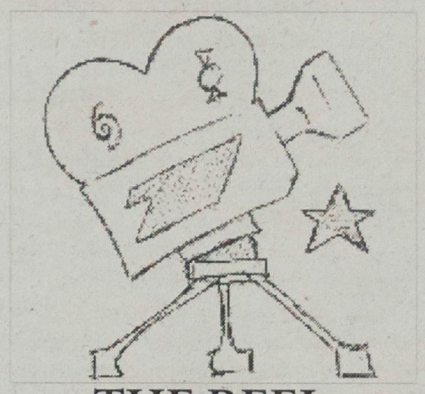
However, as Axelrod points out, the development of Sound Investment does more than just offer students a place to express themselves through music. "It sends a message to jazz musicians that their talents, dedication and interests are appreciated," he said, "and that's a powerful thing. Not to mention, jazz musicians who are music majors or minors can use Sound Investment for performance credit, as opposed to being forced to play in the orchestra or chamber singers as has happened previously." As Long explains, that these were the only avenues available for credit was not only insulting, but also very Eurocentric. "It sent the message that skills such as improvisation and rhythmic virtuosity, trademarks of genres like jazz, which had considerable contribution from African-American musical culture, were academically worthless. By supporting Sound Investment, the school is changing its antiquated opinion, and the campus is going to benefit by having a more vibrant and educated music scene."

Albert Bitici

Jazz enthusiasts improvise together for the first time together in the new band, Sound Investment.

Most importantly, Sound Investment seems to be focused on the ideals of jazz music, a genre synonymous with self-expression, creativity and passion. Long emphasizes that "jazz is unique in that it fosters a kind of two-fold social dynamic, especially with a big band. When the big band plays in an ensemble, it is harmony and cooperation in the traditional musical sense,.. the same kind of harmony you could find in an a cappella group, a classroom, or a sports team. On the other hand, jazz has always been about highlighting the individual-a very American trait, through the featured soloist. In that sense, jazz encourages quick thinking and improvisation in a way that few other art forms do. I think the campus as a whole could benefit immensely from an emphasis on that kind of original thinking."

With such thinking, Sound Investment now attempts to break onto the Middlebury music scene.



THE REEL CRITIC

BY JUSTINE KATZENBACH

MOVIE | MATCH POINT
DIRECTOR | WOODY ALLEN
STARRING | SCARLETT JOHANSSON, JONATHAN RHYS MEYERS

Perhaps the most seductive aspect of "Match Point" is that Woody Allen excludes himself from the picture. The absence of that high-pitched, screeching voice, nagging with idiosyncrasies, concerns and anxieties, is certainly a relief. The unlikely hero that Allen always chooses to play is, by definition, nonexistent in Allen's newest picture. In fact, in "Match Point," there seems to be no hero whatsoever, flawed or perfect, and this sheds a new, darker light on the tone of the film.

At the Cannes Film Festival last May, various reviewers happily and consistently made the same comment — that "Match Point" is "not a typical Woody Allen film." Allen is certainly capable of bringing innovative new concepts and ideas to film making. When critics made this comment, however, what they really meant to say was that "Match Point" is not a "typical" rendition of an Allen film. Not only is Allen removed physically from the action of the film, but no actor attempts to take his place. There is no character in "Match Point" who speaks with that mumbling, anxious tone, who is obsessed with sex or who speaks proudly and constantly of his Jewish heritage. All stereotypes that we relate with Woody Allen and his film-making are, quite thankfully, removed.

The film is unsettling to say the least. The dramatic Hitchcock-style shots create a loss of the time continuum. There is this general confusion of whether Scarlett Johansson is playing an American actress of the 1920s, glamorous and posh, or one of the present day. The traditional and disturbing shots are framed by a London backdrop — its beautiful, traditional buildings, in collaboration with its long history, only adds to the sensation of timelessness that the movie offers.

The individual characters also add to the film's ageless manner, in part because they each embody an extremist, personality that is type-cast to suit them. When poor, Irish, ex-tennis pro Chris (Jonathon Rhys Meyers) meets the rich and extravagant Tom Hewett (Matthew Goode) during a tennis lesson at the exclusive club where Chris works, Tom immediately befriends him. Sharing a love of opera, Tom invites Chris to a performance with his very wealthy parents and younger sister Chloe (Emily Mortimer). Chloe immediately falls in love with Chris. Consequently, the family initiates a "grooming" program in order to fashion Chris into the man that they would have their daughter marry — well-dressed, well-mannered and well-worked. Chloe's father hires him to work at his business.

It is when Chris meets Nola (Johansson), a sexy and attractive American actress who is engaged to Tom, that things get complicated. Chris is a man who longs deeply to be welcomed by Nola's elitist family, the Hewetts, and who will happily morph into the person they wish him to be. Nola, on the other hand, creates an interesting dichotomy as she opposes all urges of conformity. These simple character differences ultimately cause the downfall of both Chris and Nola as they fall into a dire love triangle that cannot be treated or fixed in any simple manner.

The stubbornness of both Chris and Nola, and the extremist and almost stereotypical personalities that each character embodies creates a provocatively interesting film that reveals the haunting nature of guilt. Immorality shapes the entire arch of the film, but how this appears on a thematic level is most interesting. The pessimistic standpoint which Allen assumes leaves the audience feeling perplexed and disturbed, for when the people who should be punished are set free, it disturbs his moral landscape. However, as Chris once explains to Nola, he'd "rather be lucky than good," the film comments on the everlasting effect of guilt — even as lucky as one can be, guilt will stalk forever, ever-present, infinitely preying.

WRMC 91.1 FM
On Rotation

BY JASON GUTIERREZ

I think it is finally time to set the record straight and clear emo's name. Emo is a sub-genre of hardcore punk. It has enjoyed several waves of popularity, the first of such waves coming out of the Washington D.C. hardcore scene during the mid 1980s. Bands like Rites of Spring and Dag Nasty were some of the earliest bands to carry the "emo" tag.

The sound of many of these early emo bands had its roots inside the hardcore scene, which is to say that there was a lot of thrashing, hard-driving guitars, very fast drumming patterns and screaming lyrics that generally had to do with anarchy and the experience of being young in a society that views them as punks. For many early hardcore punk bands, the substance was subservient to the style of the band. Some bands used their shows as arenas to incite violence in the crowd under the pretext of being anti-establishment. It was this environment that many of the first emo bands wanted to rebel against. They began to play in more complex time signatures, add variety and greater melody to the guitar work and write lyrics that held deeper personal significance. They also pursued a point of view that was more easily accessible to the population at large.

This hardcore-influenced emo would more or less die out during the early 1990s when most of the bands broke up. In the void an "indie emo" sound was created, and it was this sound that would prevail through the 1990s, with the best and most influential scenes cropping up in the Midwest.

Those in the Midwest scene had a sound that set them apart from a lot of other emo bands during the 1990s. The Midwest sound was far more calm than most of the other emo in the country. The guitar sound was quieter and cleaner, the acoustic guitar was used more frequently and the lyrics were even more personal and introspective than previously. Towns like Chicago, Milwaukee and Kansas City had very vibrant scenes with bands like The Get Up Kids (in my opinion the quintessential emo band from this period), Elliot and The Promise Ring coming out of these scenes.

This "indie emo" scene gave way around the year 2001 to what I like to call "pop emo." Around this time bands like Dashboard Confessional and Jimmy Eat World took the pop music world by storm, and emo went mainstream. The sounds of Dashboard and Jimmy Eat World were very accessible to pop radio audiences with their more or less sunny disposition, hopeful lyrics and very bouncy power chords.

Whether or not these major label emo bands are helping or hurting the rock subgenre of emo is up to interpretation. To me, the best modern emo bands are the ones that people haven't really heard of yet. The Junior Varsity, for instance, is one that blends melodic and hard driving guitars with lyrics that are suitably simple, and yet still holds a power simply because of the common experience to which I can relate.

However, I think the best emo album to come out in recent years was "Deja Entendu" by Long Island band Brand New. Frontman and main songwriter Jesse Lacey writes lyrics with uncommon depth and poignancy for a modern emo band, and the music itself would be best described as Interpol meets Fugazi, which gives the sound a darker edge to it, and opens up the possibility for a new, exciting direction for a type of music that many have been unfairly cast aside as disposable.

David Finckel and Wu Han

Albert Bitici

Returning to Middlebury College on Tuesday, husband and wife duo David Finckel and Wu Han gave a concert featuring Rachmaninoff's Opus 19, Porkofiev's Opus 119 and Lera Auerbach's Sonata no. 1 at the Center for the Arts Concert Hall.

Editors' A&E picks

for the week of 2/23 - 3/1

23

ORANGE CRUSH
10 p.m. - 2 a.m. in McCullough Social Space
Tickets $5
Orange Crush to rock out with its usual 80s flavor tonight in McCullough. Voted "Best Cover Band" in the Springfield, Mass. Valley Advocate's "Grand Band Slam" contest of 2005, Orange Crush is known throughout New England and beyond for their covers of quirky, rocking 80s grooves by the likes of Bon Jovi, Whitesnake, Beastie Boys, AC/DC and everything in between.

24

WINTER CARNIVAL: FROZEN FANTASY
4 - 7 p.m. in the Center for the Arts Lower Lobby
The Winter Carnival begins festively in the CFA with an exciting variety of acts by various student performance-art organizations. Included will be performances by the GT/VT Breakers, Midd Cheer and On Tap as well as various other cultural dance pieces. Also enjoy music by the Mischords, comedy by Middlebury Brothel and juggling by Flying Fists Juggling Brigade and Fire Poi (fire jugglers).

24

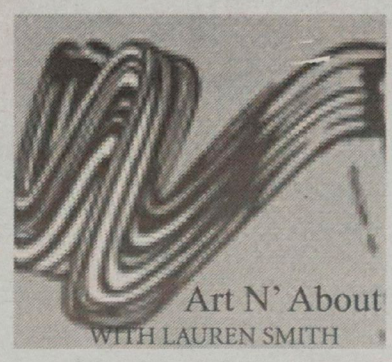
WINTER CARNIVAL COMEDY SHOW: DAN AHDOOT
7:30 - 9 p.m. and 9.30 - 11.30 p.m. in McCullough Social Space
Dan Ahdoot comes to Middlebury with his hilarious critically-acclaimed stand-up comedy act. Based on his own hilarious observations on everyday life fresh out of the confines of college and his experience as a first generation American, Ahdoot's stage-presence combines edge, charm and wit to leave all audience-members in hysterics. Ahdoot is a finalist on Season 2 of NBC's "Last Comic Standing," has written freelance for Comedy Central's Crank Yankers and has opened for the likes of Jay Mohr and Dave Chappelle.

26

BREAD & PUPPET THEATER OF VERMONT: NATIONAL CIRCUS OF THE CORRECT MOMENT
6 - 7:30 p.m. in Memorial Field House Nelson Recreational Center
The Bread and Puppet Theater, one of the country's oldest, non-profit, self-supporting theatrical companies, comes to Middlebury this weekend for a series of workshops and a performance, where they will showcase its environmentally and politically-conscious giant papier-mâché puppets. Bread and Puppet is based in Glover, Vt.

27

THE BLACK FEMALE BODY: PHOTOGRAPHY
4 - 7 p.m. in Dana Auditorium
Deborah Willis, award-winning photographer and Professor of Photography and Imaging at the Tisch School of the Arts, New York University, will give a slide-lecture this Monday. The lecture aims to introduce Middlebury students and the community to historical and contemporary representational practices pertaining to African Americans through a study of scholarly critique, popular culture and contemporary aesthetics.



Realism is making a comeback. Just wait and see. It will soon be filling the studios of countless college students who, last year, were splattering paint on mud-smeared canvases or sculpturing deformed cows out of paper mache. This artist isn't complaining. Let me tell you why realism rules.

At about this time a year ago, I received my monthly issue of ARTnews, a popular magazine with artists, collectors and curators. The magazine tends to be on top of things, so imagine my surprise when I looked at the cover and saw a sculpture of a real man's face. He didn't have green skin or missing eyes or any of the usual marks of modern art. The piece was actually a sculpture of what looked to be a real human being. Underneath this picture were the words: "A New Realism." I couldn't believe my eyes.

I read the cover article and discovered that though realism has steadfastly managed to hold its own through countless "movements" in modern art, as the new millennium began, realist artists were coming out of their studios to form what the magazine called "new realism."

This isn't your grandmother's realism with dry-looking oil portraits of stoic-faced men and rosy-cheeked women cuddling tiny dogs on their laps. The realism that is emerging is one that does draw on themes and techniques of the Old Masters while at the same time mixing and manipulating them with images from new media and popular culture.

The young painters John Currin, Elizabeth Peyton, Jenny Saville and Luc Tuymans are considered key players in the emerging realist movement. But though they create realist images, can it really be said that they practice realism? A clear-cut definition of realism is difficult to articulate, if not impossible. Saville's oil paintings of large women are indeed realistic, but there is a surreal quality to the work, perhaps because of the usually enormous scale of the paintings. Currin's work has often been criticized for its supposedly sexist depictions of women. His figures draw on stereotypes and unrealistic idealizations of women that we encounter in media. They do not look like "real" women.

Another example of not-quite-realism comes from the German artist Gerhard Richter. He was perhaps practicing "new" realism before the term even existed. In the 1970s, Richter began to use images from supposedly straightforward news and advertising photographs in his photo-realistic paintings. The images are haunting. At a time when American realists were practicing a straightforward approach, Richter produced "photo-paintings" that left the viewer wondering why such a realistic, mundane image was so disturbing. Yes, Richter was a realist, but he went beyond your clear-cut realism to depict something realistic yet at the same time poetic.

Realism is often criticized by "with it" college students who think painting or sculpting real-life is boring or that it has "already been done." Realism, even photo-realism, has an important place in the history of modern art that is often overlooked, especially in college classrooms. Hopefully, with the recent emergence of trendy realist artists like Saville and Peyton, realism will begin to be considered cool and some of us can stop throwing elephant-dung on the floor and calling it art. Realism isn't for everybody, but it should have a respected position among modern art, even for us young, hip people.

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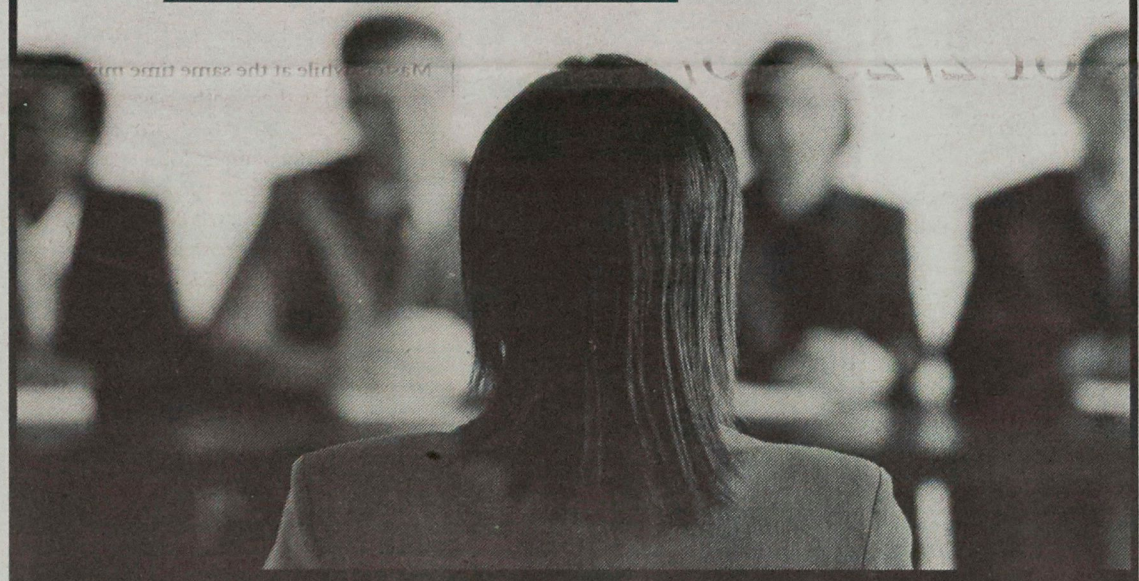

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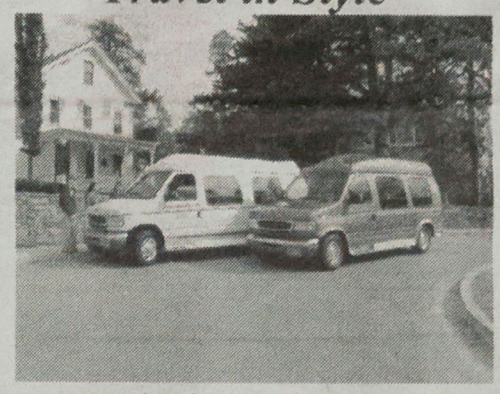

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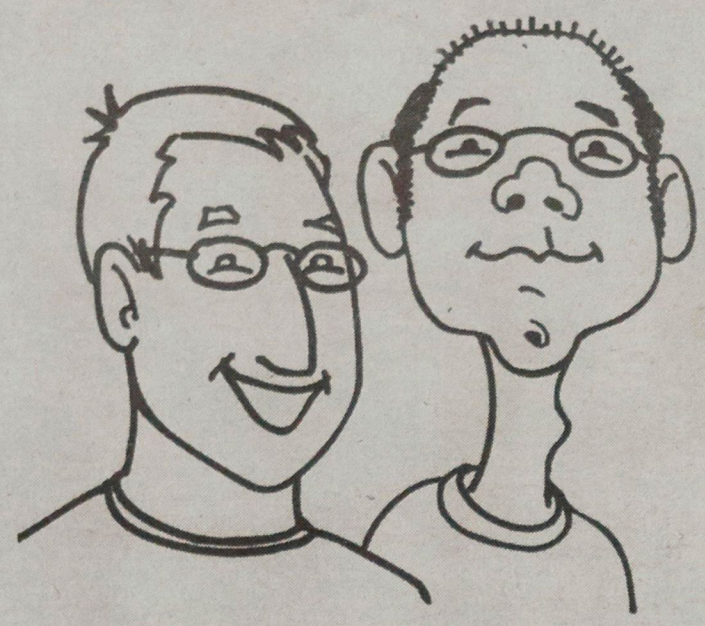

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Panthers prevail in two NESCAC nailbiters

Captain Smith's slap shot goal lifts Middlebury over Amherst in season finale

File Photo/Vlad Lodoaba

The Panthers rolled through the regular season and seem poised to make a run through the NESCAC tourney.

By Steve Beslow
Staff Writer

After a tough loss at Babson earlier in the month bumped Middlebury to the third spot in the national standings, the Panthers returned home to finish off the regular season on a high note, cementing their place at the top of the NESCAC standings. Heading into this weekend, the men's hockey team needed only one point to clinch home ice throughout the NESCAC tournament, which begins next week.

The Panthers decided not to wait until the last minute to secure that advantage, taking down the Hamilton Continentals on Friday night. Hamilton, who beat Middlebury during last year's regular season, came out firing on all cylinders, seemingly out-hustling the Panthers for most of the first period. Sophomore goaltender Ross Cherry was the victim of Hamilton's high-powered start, giving up two first period goals, including one shorthanded fast break where he was screened by his own defenseman.

As tough as the rival Continentals were playing, the tide began to swing in Middlebury's favor late in the first frame. With only 29 seconds left in the period, first-year sensation Jamie McKenna scored on the powerplay, stuffing a Jack Kinder '09 rebound home.

McKenna's goal provided plenty of momentum going into the locker room, and the Panthers returned to the ice invigorated and ready to take command.

Middlebury tied the game at 14:52 of the second period, when Yev Saidachev '07 beat Hamilton netminder Gabe Tash with a screamer from just inside the blue line. The tie was short lived — only 42 seconds later, sure-handed Mickey Gilchrist '08 stepped up and wristed home the deciding goal.

This quick turn of events came as no surprise to the Panther crowd, as fan favorites Saidachev and Gilchrist have become known for coming through in the clutch. Gilchrist's play and leadership have been so impressive, in fact, that he was recently named the team's only alternate captain.

Hamilton did not simply lie down, however, and the third period was hotly contested and brutally physical until captain Jeff Smith '06 provided some breathing room at 2:21 with a perfectly placed rebound. Scott Bartlett '08 finished off the scoring by putting home an empty netter with less than a minute left in the game, making a winner of Cherry who overcame those early scores to finish the contest with 17 saves, several of which came at crucial points.

With the NESCAC lead wrapped up, the Panthers were in a mood to celebrate Saturday afternoon, as they finished off the regular season with the annual "Senior Night" against Amherst. Despite Middlebury fielding an abnormally young team this season, there was still plenty of love to go around for the three honored Panthers. Senior Yen-I Chen was given the start in goal, a sign of respect from head coach Bill Beaney for the maturity and commitment to the team that Chen has shown this year while ceding most of the goaltending duties to Cherry and rookie Doug Raeder '09.

Captain Jeff Smith '06 was also honored, and received a loud ovation not only for his game-time abilities, but also for his spectacular leadership this season, both of which would be tested in this game. Also receiving special acknowledgment was General Manager Ryan McQuillan '06, who, besides serving in that post since he was a first-year, was rewarded with playing time earlier in the month, taking a number of shifts against UMass-Boston. Although he did not record any points, McQuillan still managed to make his mark on the books, recording a roughing penalty in the final minutes of the game.

The game itself was just as emotional as the pre-game ceremony. The Panthers struck first when Gilchrist had yet another huge score, taking advantage of a downed defenseman to put the puck in the upper left corner of the net on assists from McKenna and Rob MacIntyre '08 at 18:54 in the first period.

Despite a solid night overall, Chen showed a little rust in the second frame, allowing a deep shot to sneak between his pads and the post, tying the game just 2:54 into the period. Chen would prove that this goal was a little more than an aberration, as he and Amherst goalie Josh Fillman (with the help of some great defense on both sides) dominated the next period and a half.

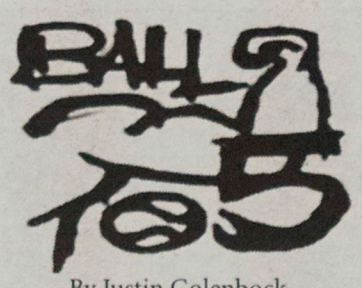
With Chen already making a tremendous contribution to the cause, it was only a matter of time before Jeff Smith showed why he is the captain of this squad. After two particularly skillful saves by Chen, with the score still tied at 1-1 with just 2:30 left in the game, Middlebury called a time out. In an unusual move, Smith called the entire Panther team off of the bench, circling them around Chen in the hometown goal. Smith was visibly emotional, as if he could make his team score by sheer will. As it turned out, all he had to do was inspire himself.

Exactly one minute later, Smith, the Panthers' best skater, grabbed a loose puck at the point and sped into the slot, firing the game winner past Fillman and causing the loudest eruption Kenyon Arena has heard this year. With the game already in hand, Gilchrist intercepted a play in Middlebury's zone and broke out with line-mate McKenna. Gilchrist unselfishly offered the empty-netter, but McKenna gave the puck right back, giving them both a well deserved point. Chen finished the 3-1 win with 23 saves, wrapping up his senior season with Middlebury just as successfully as he started his blazing rookie campaign.

The weekend sweep moved the Panthers back up to second place in the national polls behind only St. Norbert. This makes Middlebury the definite favorite in the upcoming NESCAC tournament, although the Panthers are not taking their league competitors lightly, surely noting that this is one of the strongest all-around fields in recent years.

Editors' Picks

Questions of the week:	*Zamir Ahmed*	*Tom McCann*	*Ryan W. Reese*
Will the U.S. win two or more medals in the women's figure skating competition?	NO Sasha Cohen will take home the gold but I don't see anyone else stepping up to grab another medal.	NO My sources tell me that without 'Smelly Shelly' Kwan they'll be lucky to pick up one more.	YES I'm going with Kimmie Meisner and Sasha Cohen, whose SI centerfold is already hanging in my room.
Will Megan Hughes '08 win an event at this weekend's Carnival?	NO She won the slalom last week, but that race was shortened to one run. If it's two runs this week, I say no.	YES She was on fire last time out and won't disappoint the adoring home crowd this weekend.	YES She won the slalom last week and was second in GS. She'll be golden at the Bowl.
Will the men's hockey team beat Wesleyan to advance to the NESCAC semifinal?	YES Don't underestimate the Cardinals. They went 4-1-1 in February but the Panthers will be too much.	YES This is silliness. We're talking about the back-to-back National Champions here. Wesle-who?	YES It's been ugly as of late, but there's no way the Cardinals can knock us out of the tourney.
All-Time Record:	**9 - 9 (.500)**	**14 - 4 (.777)**	**12 - 6 (.666)**



By Justin Golenbock

The spirit of the 2006 Torino Games has left me pondering the discourse of my virgin column: the true meaning of greatness. As a fairly vocal opponent of the fairy tale of nationalism that the Olympic Games present, any objective argument on the aforementioned spirit should be viewed as, at best, suspect — just two weeks ago in this very column, I panned the Winter Olympics and promised not to watch.

So it was a surprise to me when I kicked up my feet with a 30 of Beast Ice close at hand to spend a Saturday night in, watching the Games. Not that the sub-frozen-over-hell walk to the Modulars did not tempt, but nachos were involved. Naturally, I don't remember what *particular* events I watched, but I do recall seeing by far my favorite Olympic athlete of all-time: Hermann "the Herminator" Meier, the Austrian über-skier, who is of course named after a famous WWII Luftwaffe pilot, fitting him perfectly within the "Hot Dog"/"Aspen Extreme" Hollywood tradition of evil Europeans ruling the slopes.

Meier has won 51 World Cup races (second all-time), but is perhaps most famous for the deliciously horrific fall he took in the Downhill during the Nagano Olympics in 1998. "I must be immortal," he said in his best Arnold after the fall, and went on to pump up on painkillers and win gold in both the Nagano Super G and Giant Slalom.

Understandably, Meier has set the bar high, and his swan-song in Torino coincided perfectly with the rise of an American ski team, led by Bode Miller and Daron Rahlves, presumably ready to challenge Austrian dominance. So far the team has let down (though the unheralded Ted Ligety won gold in the Men's Combined), with just one medal through four of five events.

So how do we evaluate this perceived "failure?" I would forget about the absurd hypocrisy of the Eastern Sports Publicity Network running a campaign around one athlete (check out JoinBode.com) while publishing bashing articles before his final event has been skied. That's just self-interest. Rahlves is a speed specialist who has finished sixth and fifth twice in World Cup standings the past three years. He was a favorite in the Downhill, and only his performance in that event should be considered disappointing.

Bode critics tend to ignore that he is the most accomplished Alpine skier in American history — last year he became the first American in 22 years to win the overall World Cup title. He has established a reputation as daring and technically brilliant, as well as frequently rebellious with the skiing establishment — the comments he made suggesting his carelessness towards these Olympics belie the fierce training regimen and fiery competitiveness that have marked his career. Indeed he trained for two more events in 2006 than he did for the 2002 Games, when he won two silvers. So keep an eye on the Slalom this week. It's the last Alpine event and along with the GS, his best. And then maybe we can continue this discourse on greatness.

Open N.E.'s looming large for Panthers

By Robbie de Picciotto
Staff Writer

On Feb. 11, the Middlebury indoor track team traveled to Maine for a meet against Bowdoin and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. The team experienced much success during the weekend, which provided momentum heading into the D-III New England meet. Jen Katz '09 won both the 55m and 200m races with times of 7.44 and 26.93 seconds, respectively. Katz credited the team for her individual success, saying that "supportive teammates are always pushing me during both practices and meets. We get cheers going, which I think is not only helpful to the runners but also makes the races fun to watch." Another newcomer to the team, Kelley Coughlan, won the triple jump with a hop, skip and jump combination that exceeded 32 feet. The Middlebury women's indoor track squad also dominated the pole vault competition, in which Meira Lifson '07, Sarah Wilson '08 and Emer Feighery '09 each cleared 10'1" for a one, two, three finish. On the men's side, co-captain Kevin Bright '06 won both the 200m and 400m races. In a longer distance race of 3000m, Jimmy Butcher '08 finished victorious with a time of 8:49.71.

On Feb. 18, the indoor track teams competed in the Division Three New England meet. The men's side visited M.I.T. while the women returned to Bowdoin for their meet. The men finished 16th out of 24 teams and the women 12th out of 22 teams. For the women's team, Jen Katz again won the 55m and 200m races on her way to breaking her own Middlebury College records and posting new times of 7.43 seconds and 26.38 seconds. Her teammate and another rookie, Jennifer Brenes, also won a pair of All-New England honors by placing fourth in the 55m hurdles and eighth in the long jump.

The team had other members earning All-New England status as well, including Emer Feighery '09 in the pole vault, Simone Weisman '09 in the 600m, Emily Coles '09 in the 55m dash, and Sarah Wilson '08 in the pole vault.

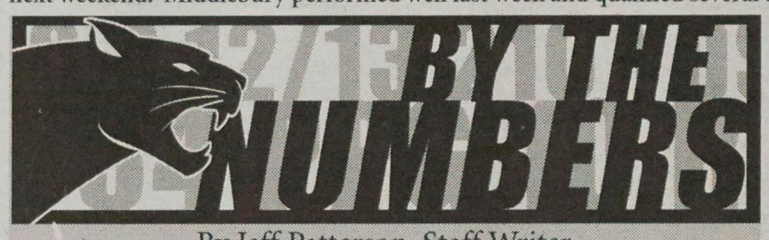
For the men, individual results featured Kevin Bright's fourth place finish in the 400m with a time of 50.69 seconds and Patrick Swan's '08 seventh place finish in the 600m with a time of 1:24.04. Both of these times earned All-New England honors. Greater success came through relays. The group of Kevin Bright, Will McDonough '07, Jimmy Butcher and Patrick Swan finished second overall.

Butcher spoke highly of his teammates, saying, "the guys have incredible talent and determination. That's really what binds the team together, none of us like to come in second place. Some people would be satisfied with the way we raced but none of us were. That's really what makes this team special. We all want to take it to the next level." This Friday they will have another chance to qualify for Nationals when they compete in the Open New England meet against Division One schools.

During the upcoming spring season, the track and field team will build upon the successes and strengthen the weaknesses from the indoor track season. Katz said, "the team is going to keep improving as we head outside and we will achieve even more this spring." The track team is enthusiastic about showcasing the strides made during the winter season and is ready to pursue even better results outdoors. In the short term, Jimmy Butcher and his relay teammates are confident for this Friday's meet and are ready "to take care of business."

Albert Bitici

Coach Peter Kim times his athletes this week in practice. The team is training for the Open New England meet next weekend. Middlebury performed well last week and qualified several athletes for the championship meet.



By Jeff Patterson, Staff Writer

.926	Regular season save percentage for Doug Raeder '09 (239 saves / 258 shots)
.927	Regular season save percentage for Yen-I Chen '06 (38 saves / 41 shots)
.928	Regular season save percentage for Ross Cherry '08 (218 saves / 235 shots)
7	Goals scored by Jamie McKenna '09 that Mickey Gilchrist '08 has assisted
11	Goals scored by Gilchrist that McKenna has assisted
0	Penalty minutes in 19 conference games for #19 Eric LaFreniere '06

Ultimate fighter knocks block off

Continued from page 24

the sport is growing in popularity. Mixed martial arts is especially popular in the Midwest, where college wrestling is just as big as college basketball is on Tobacco Road. McCain's negativity towards the sport is understandable — he was tortured for five and a half years as a POW in the Hanoi Hilton — but he is still a boxing fan, and the two positions seem hypocritical.

As Yonamine is quick to point out, no one has ever died in a mixed martial arts fight, but the average number of deaths from boxing is nine per year. Regular cage fights last a maximum of three rounds, compared to 12 in boxing, and as a result the cage fighter's brain is not blitzed with hundreds and hundreds of punches.

A cage fighter's diet usually doesn't include 4-5 meals and 3,500 calories a day, but when it is "a lot of oatmeal and bananas" combined with exercise, it'll get you in tip-top shape. Training is "intense, really intense." Yonamine and his dozen or so teammates, so-called because they train together and accompany each other on each fighter's walk to the cage — do various types of cardiovascular exercises "pretty much until failure." His teammates range in age from 18 to 30. Some are high school dropouts, but one is pursuing his M.D. Their favorite conversations typically involve their new rifles or snowmobiles. In practice, Yonamine and his teammates perfect their technique, but obviously don't go all out, as they would against a scheduled opponent. "If you don't tap out [when you're losing a fight] you'll either get choked or some bones will break.

Yonamine's left ear is currently full of gauze and stitches, but the injury wasn't from a punch. In fact, he was "only grazed once," and thanks to a "disgustingly" large amount of vaseline on his face, Monet's fist slid away harmlessly. The injury occurred from constantly banging against the firm mat. "I was surprised how hard it was, it was nothing like the wrestling mats we train on.

Even though Middlebury has strict rules concerning fighting, Yonamine doesn't see any problems in the future. "I don't have underlying rage... I just wanted to prove to myself that I could do it."

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

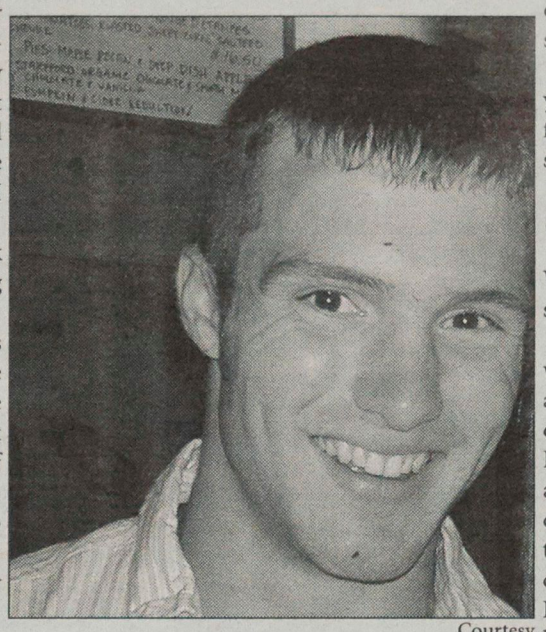
Matt Malek '06 plays hard and works harder

***The Campus:* When did you start running track?**

Matt Malek: I started running track junior year at Middlebury.

***TC*: Why did you decide to start?**

MM: I played soccer for the first two years, on the B-team, and then I didn't play my junior year and I got fat and bored. I'd always wanted to play track and it seemed like the perfect opportunity, so I took it up.



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***TC*: Did you ever think about playing something else?**

MM: Not really. At this level you kind of need to be fairly well trained to say the least to play most sports, but track is something where if you have the kind of natural ability, you can pick it up faster.

***TC*: So would you say you're a natural?**

MM: [Laughs] I guess that could be said.

***TC*: What do you talk about with other sprinters between sprints?**

MM: [Laughs] I don't think that's fit for publication. [Pause] Well, today we were watching the jumpers — we often comment on the other people in the gym and the pole-vaulters are always entertaining because they do funny things in their training.

***TC*: Do you have a favorite event to watch or compete in?**

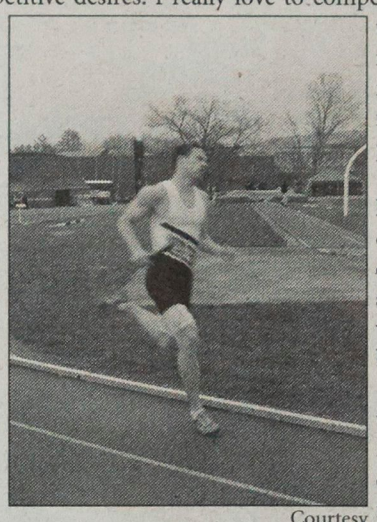
MM: I think it's the same answer for both actually. I think the 4x400m relay is my favorite event both to watch and do because it's short enough to be "not-boring" in my opinion, but long enough to build up and have a lot of excitement. It's, in my opinion, the best spectator event in track — probably a biased event since I run the event.

***TC*: Do you have an occasion that stands out for you so far when you think back over your track career?**

MM: Definitely the Open New England meet in Boston last indoor season. It's when our relay sort of came out of nowhere to come in fourth and qualify — or we thought, qualify for nationals and it was excellent. Everybody ran the best they could that day and it was a wonderful experience.

***TC*: What's the best thing that track has done for you?**

MM: You mean besides my beautiful girlfriend, Kirsten? [Laughs] It's given me an outlet for my competitive desires. I really love to compete and it's done that, and I've met some amazing people, some really awesome people.



Courtesy

***TC*: OK. Now, if you could nix an event from a standard meet what would it be?**

MM: Easily the 5000m, or 3000m, whichever one they run outside — the really really long one. I don't even know what they run here. It takes a long, long time and it's around a circle and you never know where they are in the race and usually they don't actually make their move until the end so the first 20 minutes or so is kinda planned.

***TC*: If someone tripped you during national qualifiers, would you start a bobsled team?**

MM: [Laughs] Yes. [Pause]

***TC*: OK, fair enough. Who would you have in your sled?**

MM: Well, naturally I would have Khristoph Becker as the driver because he can do everything anyway so I'm assuming he can drive a bobsled. I mean, if he can do all the decathlete things that he does so well, why not drive something that nice? In the back, for power, we'd have Pat Swan '08 — "Man of Steel" — then, second from the back we'd have Matt Angoff '07 who would entertain us with quotes all the way down the ice, keeping the whole sled chill, and naturally I'd be carrying the egg.

***TC*: What's your favorite sports movie?**

MM: That's a tough question. Surprisingly, it might be *Cool Runnings*, even with the reference. It has humor, it has passion and it has people who do things that they're really bad at and loving it.

***TC*: Do track kids throw the sickest parties?**

MM: We have had some "fun-day Sundays." I would say yes, although I don't know if I can answer that appropriately for the paper. [Laughs]

***TC*: So what's the major difference between track athletes and field athletes?**

MM: Track athletes tend to be smaller than field athletes. Track athletes tend to be more masochistic and field athletes more bouncy and strong.

***TC*: How do you find the time to keep up your grades and train for track every day?**

MM: It's not that bad. I would either play something else or goof off in the afternoon for that amount of time for the most part so it's just a matter of applying your free time.

***TC*: Do you have any other sporting interests at Middlebury?**

MM: Well, in fact I do. One of my great passions here is intramural sports — especially the Xi Omega Great White Yaks Intramural Sports Franchise.

***TC*: Really? Tell me about that.**

MM: It's a group of overzealous and entirely too-enthusiastic group of students who began in one sport and got jerseys and then extended to hockey and got jerseys and then they started recruiting and then they expanded to many other sports and now they expand through the entire intramural sports network, including fund-raising, charity events, inter-collegiate intramural sports competitions — the likes. Even end of year banquets.

***TC*: OK. Would it freak you out to run clockwise?**

MM: It's very very strange. We do it in practice because otherwise you would fall apart going one way around the bubble. It's really weird — it's remarkably strange — you feel like you're going to fall over.

***TC*: Do you also find yourself wearing spandex when you're not involved in track?**

MM: [Coy look] Maybe…

— Tom McCann, Sports Editor

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Result	Comments
2-17	W Hockey	Hamilton	5-1	Cellino '09 nets two goals to lead the Panther attack
2-18	W Hockey	Trinity	8-0	Eight different Panther skaters noched goals last Saturday.
2-18	Skiing	Williams	3rd Place	Megan Hughes '08 wins the women's slalom to lead Middlebury.
2-20	Squash	Amherst	5-4	Women pick up a momentum booster with the Howe Cup up next.

SPORTSBRIEFS

BY ZAMIR AHMED, SPORTS EDITOR

Crunch time for Midd teams

File Photo/Albert Bitici

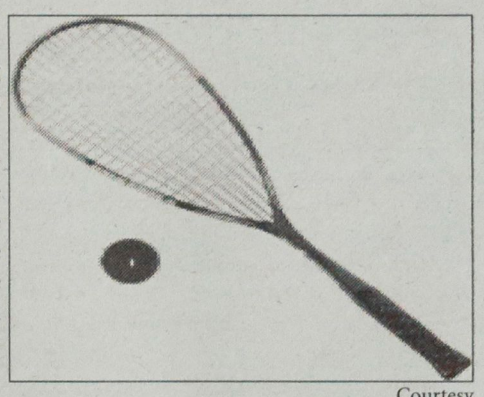
Despite the completion of the seasons of most winter sports teams, Middlebury College is set to host a number of important athletic events over the next couple of weeks.

The main draw this weekend will be the Middlebury Carnival on Feb. 24-25, which will also serve as the Eastern Intercollegiate Ski Association (EISA) Skiing Championships. Events start at 9:30 a.m. on both days of the Carnival. The alpine races will be held at the Middlebury College Snow Bowl while the Nordic races have been moved to the Craftsbury Nordic Center. The Panthers are coming off a third place finish at the Williams Carnival last weekend after finishing second at their previous four meets.

On Saturday, Feb. 25, the Middlebury men's hockey team will kick off its search for its sixth NESCAC title, looking to continue its recent domination of the tournament after winning the top prize for the past two seasons. The Panthers' first-round game of the NESCAC tournament will pit the team against Wesleyan College at 4 p.m. in Kenyon Arena. With a win over Hamilton on Feb. 17, Middlebury clinched the top seed in the tournament, finishing the regular season with a record of 20-2-2 (16-2-1 in the NESCAC). The Panthers won the first meeting between the two teams on Jan. 28 3-1 but the Cardinals enter the tournament after having won or tied 5 of its 6 games during February to finish the regular season with a 7-12-4 overall record. The game is sure to be a defensive battle, as both teams field a strong back line. Middlebury finished the regular season with the number one scoring defense in the NESCAC, giving up only 1.62 goals per game, while Wesleyan was second in the league with a mark of 2.35 goals per game. If the Panthers win on Saturday, the team will play host to the semifinals and finals of the tournament, to be held March 3-4.

The women's hockey team has this weekend off after earning a first-round bye in the NESCAC tournament. The Panthers, ranked second in the nation behind Plattsburgh, will be back in action next week on March 4, as they will host the semifinals and finals of the tournament for the first time since 2002. The team led the NESCAC regular season standings wire-to-wire, finishing 22-2-0 overall, 15-1-0 in division play. The Panthers biggest challenge to repeat as division tournament champions will come from Bowdoin, which had hosted the event the past three years. The Polar Bears stand with a 15-7-1 overall record and went 12-3-1 in the NESCAC to finish second to the Panthers in the league. Middlebury won both meetings between the two teams this season, a 4-2 win on Jan. 6 and a 9-0 romp on Jan. 28.

Men's squash wraps up season



Courtesy

The Middlebury men's squash team wrapped up its season last weekend, taking part in the College Squash Association Team Championships on Feb. 17-19. The Panthers competed in the Summers Division for the 17-24 ranked teams in the land. Despite losing all three of its matches, the team still showed significant improvement from last season.

On Feb. 17, the Panthers dropped their first round match, losing 8-1 to Denison University, the eventual division champions. Jeff Wieland '06 was the only member of the team to win a match, taking his contest in four games. The loss pushed the team into the losers' bracket, where the Panthers took on George Washington University. Again, the team dropped an 8-1 decision. This time, Will Carroll '07 was the sole victor for the Panthers, winning in three games. An upside for the team is the fact that four of their losses went to four games, many of which were tight until the end.

In the Panthers' final match of the weekend, the team took on Stanford to decide the 23rd and 24th final rankings. The bout was close, with four matches going to five games, with the Cardinals ultimately coming out on top 6-3. J.P. Sardi '09, Gordon McMorris '08 and Wieland, the top three Panthers, all won their matches in the losing effort.

The Panthers entered the weekend ranked 24th in the nation, the same ranking they ended up with. They finished last season ranked 29th.

Unsung Hero of the Week

ABBY SMITH '08 (Women's Hockey)
- The sophomore netminder kept a shutout in Saturday's 8-0 win over Trinity.

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM | **MATT MALEK '06 TALKS ABOUT HIS LOVE OF *COOL RUNNINGS*** | 23

INDOOR TRACK | **PANTHERS HITTING THEIR STRIDE AS CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS APPROACH** | 22

GAMES TO WATCH

SKIIING
WINTER CARNIVAL
FEB. 24-25 | SNOW BOWL

MEN'S HOCKEY
VS. WESLEYAN
FEB. 23 | 4:00 P.M.

campus sports

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2006

Panthers earn silver in NESCAC season finale

Middlebury women fall to Ephs again, but blow Amherst out of the water

By Eri Nosaka
Staff Writer

This past weekend the women's swim team saw incredible results at the NESCAC championships hosted by Bowdoin College. With an overall season record of 7-2 — losing only to Amherst College and Williams College — the women's team managed to defeat Amherst by a gap of 200 points. The Panthers finished the meet with 1,583 points, second only to Williams' 1,878.5. The Ephs took home their sixth straight NESCAC championship, continuing their domination of the sport. Last year, the women managed to come in with an acceptable third place finish at the championships, taking the bronze behind Williams and Amherst.

"This weekend was the perfect finish to a perfect season. Everyone came together in spirit and in the pool. We surprised ourselves and our competitors because we dropped times in every event," said Head Coach Peter Solomon.

Known for having hardworking and rigorous workouts, the women showed that their efforts had paid off.

Strong swimmers and divers of the weekend included Marika Ross'08, Sara Cowie'08 and Alana Hanson '08. Ross ended the weekend with three NESCAC titles and several conference and pool records. In her 100 yard fly event she ended with a time of 55.76 seconds, making her the second Division III swimmer to finish with a time under 56.

The Panthers also placed well in the relays, gaining two second place finishes in the 200 yard free relay — with a time of 2:25.49 — and the 400 yard medley relay.

Solomon, however, emphasizes that this weekend was really about the team as a whole rather than individual and relay events.

"The seniors provided unparallel and unprecedented enthusiasm this year. Whether or not they suited up, they provided support that reflected the team's best performance. Everyone dropped in their times and I think that says something about the team. We totally turned the tables on Amherst by coming in second and we closed the gap with Williams."

Despite losing nine swimmers and divers, the team still has a strong chance of winning the NESCAC championship next year. Williams is losing a strong core of its team, which will leave them vulnerable for being NESCAC Champions next year. At this rate, the Middlebury team should be a strong contender.

A number of Panthers will travel to the University of Minnesota on March 9-11 for the NCAA Championships.

File Photo/Vlad Lodoaba

The women's swimming and diving team finished behind only Williams in last weekend's NESCAC Championship meet held at Bowdoin.

Midd junior tries hand at cage fighting

Jay Yonamine '07 takes 90 seconds to claim first ultimate fighting victory

By Jeff Patterson
Staff Writer

Jay Yonamine '07, a political science major, spent his fall term in D.C. — definitely commonplace — but on Jan. 21 he "did the most extreme thing [he's] ever done," when he fought a mixed martial arts bout. With SPRAWL scrawled across his shorts, Jay won his first fight in an octagonal cage.

After watching Ultimate Fighting on TV and reading up on technique, Jay enrolled in a fight school over summer break near his Minnesota home run by his current trainer/promoter Mike Reilly. Within six months Jay was cage-ready. It should be noted that it can take as long as two years for some people to master the necessary skills.

On the morning of the fight against Dan Monet, who had three fights under his belt, Jay woke up thinking, "Tonight I'm going to be in the cage." Looking back, he wouldn't describe the feeling as "scared," just "extremely nervous." Yonamine had to be at the Rochester, Minn., arena, which was charging $50 for a front-row seat, several hours before the start of the match, and all he could do was sit around. At 9 p.m. he heard the cage's door lock behind him and there was no chance to back out. "Humans react with either fight or flight. In the cage, you can only fight," he said.

Yonamine doesn't remember much about the fight, even though it was four weeks ago, but he does recall being surprised when instead of beginning the match by touching gloves with the other fighter, like he expected, the referee just said, "Fight." Yonamine hesitated a little, but then went at Monet. He thought the fight only lasted several seconds, but his coach said it was more like a minute and a half.

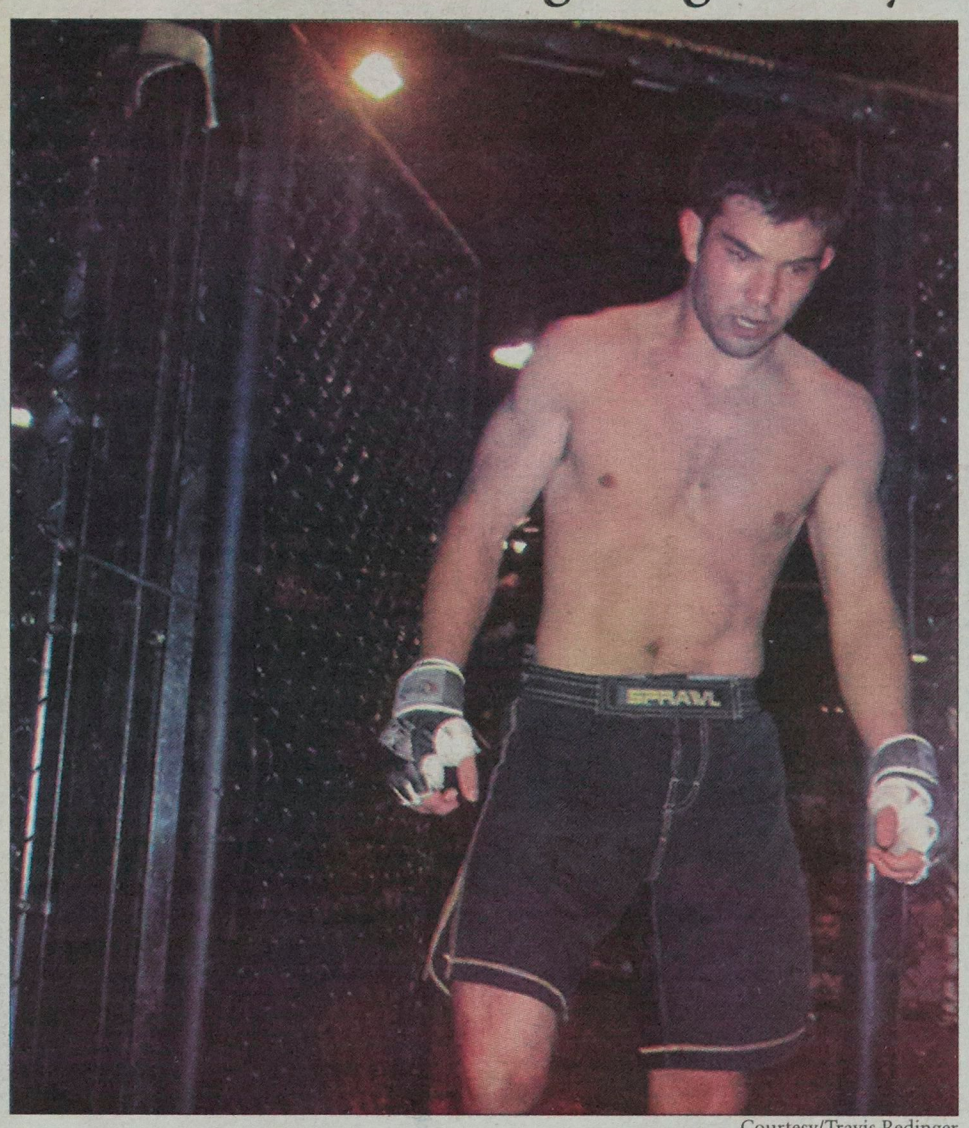
Yonamine remembers Reilly shouting, "Break his f---ing arm," when Jay was in the driver's seat. After the fight, Reilly claimed it was only to intimidate the other guy, but in the heat of battle and as a rookie, Yonamine followed his coach's instructions. Luckily for Monet, he tapped out when he did. If Monet hadn't, he would have needed a cast.

"You have to be super intense. [I call it] calm aggression and you have to save it up," said Yonamine. He feels he was successful because he concentrated on his technique. "Sometimes fighters get too pumped up and instead of using proper technique, they just flail their arms," he said.

Yonamine had only positive things to say about the sportsmanship displayed, more often than not with a hug, on the mat after fights. "Nothing is left unsettled and by fighting, [both competitors] see who's boss. The loser [can only blame himself]," Yonamine said. Mixed martial arts was an original Olympic event under the name pankration and Yonamine questions why it is no longer in the Olympic games: "It's the purest form of sport," he said. "Skeleton is not."

Mixed martial arts has caught on all over the globe — especially in Brazil, Holland and Japan, where one PRIDE Fighting Championship event was attended by 90,000 — but it has not had the same success in the U.S. Senator John McCain was a big reason for a four-year stoppage in the sport from 1997-2001, but with new rules that carefully define 31 fouls including biting, eye-gouging and head-butting, along with set weight classes,

See Ultimate, page 22



Courtesy/Travis Redinger

Jay Yonamine '07 enters the ring for his first career cage fight. Yonamine won the contest.